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APPLIED SCIENCE READING ROOM

# Farm and Ranch MAY 1954 REVIEW



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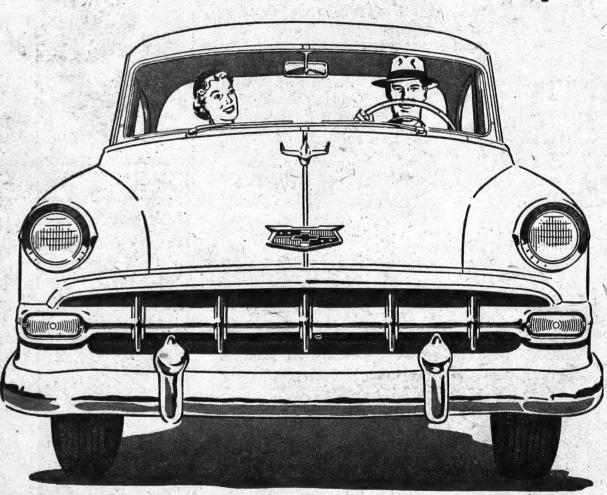
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Igmes H. Grav. Editor

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Photo by Clemson.

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No. 5

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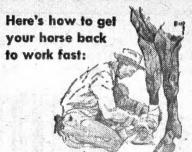
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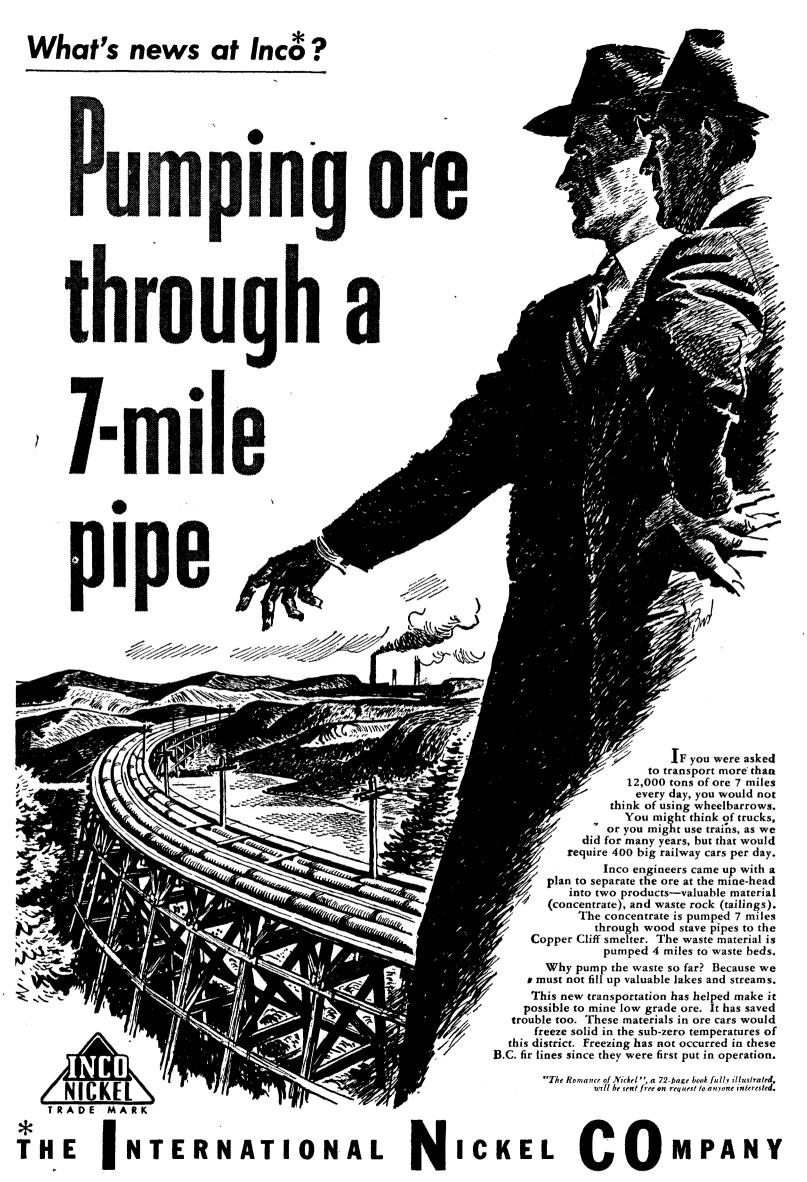
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# The Farm and Ranch Editorial Page...

## The Hon. Doug. Abbott—— a fine minister, fine Canadian

SINCE Hon. Douglas Abbott brought in his tenth and, he has said, his last budget, we've been doing some thinking about Mr. Abbott and his budgets. We've come to the conclusion that both are typically Canadian with all the faults and all the virtues that go to make this country what it is. We think that Mr. Abbott's budgets are more typically Canadian than Mr. Ilsley's ever were.

Faced with the grim necessity of finding record numbers of dollars year after year, Mr. Ilsley was driven to adopting radical expedients. He was the author of spectacular budgets. He introduced cyclical budgets, compulsory savings and the highest rates of taxation ever imposed on this country. Mr. Abbott's budgets by contrast have been as unspectacular as warmed over porridge. That, we suppose, is as it should be tor. "spectacular" is not the word for Canada or Canadians. The Americans, by over usage, have squeezed much of the meaning from such words as "terrific", "spectacular", "stupendous". But when a Canadian wants to show enthusiasm for something, when he wants to set something a cut or two or three above normal he'll use a typically Canadian expression.

He'll say that it's "not bad".

That expression just about sums up Mr. Abbott's budgets. They are "not bad" in our particularly Canadian sense. In many ways, he had a much more difficult task to perform than Mr. Ilsley had. To make his radical measures possible, Mr. Ilsley had the benefit of wartime compulsions. People were prepared to make what sacrifices they had to because of the war. They were prepared to pay taxes that were downright confiscatory for the same reason. Mr. Abbott was forced to maintain taxes at unheard of rates in peacetime when none of the wartime compulsions were operating.

From his seat in the House of Commons, Mr. Abbott had listened to the A.B.C.'s of cyclical budgeting being expounded during the war years. When times are good, you keep taxes up and reduce the national debt so that when times are tough you can run up a deficit and increase the national debt. It was Mr. Abbott's unhappy lot to be cast as the fellow who taxed heavily today to make lighter taxes possible tomorrow. So it was no accident, from the time Mr. Abbott took over in 1946 that Canada has balanced her budget and steadily reduced her debt.

The test of Mr. Abbott's performance can best be made by comparison. The United States is ever so much richer than Canada. It is a hundred years older as a nation than Canada. But for all its wealth and experience, the United States has not even tried to balance its budget since the last days of Herbert Hoover's administration. Another test of Mr. Abbott's performance is this: He never sought to curry public favor by making popular tax reductions. Instead

he went for the sort of budgetary changes he regarded as in the best interest of the country as a whole. On all these counts, Mr. Abbott has compiled a very remarkable record indeed. He has done a remarkable job for the people of Canada.

In the process of piloting our ship of state through the financial shoals of postwar reconstruction, Mr. Abbott has done much that has drawn criticism. As readers of the Farm and Ranch know so well, this journal has been among his severest critics. But we confess that our complaints have always been more with Mr. Abbott's advisers than with Mr. Abbott.

Our refusal to adopt measures that would have encouraged the development of Canadian resources by Canadian capital was a serious mistake. But it was an error by the financial advisers of the minister rather than the minister.

How, for example, could Mr. Abbott have known that when some of his highest priced help provided him with statistics on which judgment was based that the statistics were misleading? When they told him that Canadians were financing 80 or 90 per cent of our post-war expansion, he had to assume they knew what they were talking about. The fact was that they had no statistical basis for such a contention.

Our complaint with Mr. Abbott mainly boiled down to this: He would have been an even greater success as minister of finance if he had relied more on his own sound common sense and less on the advice of some of his experts.

But on the broad, historic record, none can say that Doug Abbott was not one of our very best ministers of finance. Right now, the newspapers are full of scare stories about another depression. Like people who have survived a prairie fire, the word depression throws a scare into a lot of us. Mr. Abbott in his last budget provides nothing on which such a fear can feed. He's as confident in the future as he ever was and there is this reassurance to be taken from his attitude. His guesses about our economy have been consistently accurate since he brought down his first budget away back in 1947. That's more than a lot of his critics

So, if this was his valedictory, we think that Mr. Abbott is entitled to leave public life with the best wishes of the people of Canada. He has served us well through difficult times. He has done so at great personal sacrifice, for these have been years when able lawyers like Mr. Abbott have been able to get rich in eastern Canada. Instead of pursuit of wealth, Mr. Abbott chose to serve the people of Canada. He did so with distinction, with honor and with rare good humor. He has left a record that will serve as a yardstick by which his successors may be measured for many years to come.

## Wages, prices and the Tories

PAST performance should lead us to expect it, we know; but we are always surprised when the genius of the Tory politicians for getting on the wrong side of all issue asserts itself. The latest case in point is in connection with the increase in postal rates that went into effect last month.

When they are dealing with broad generalities, the Tories always deplore hidden taxes and subsidies. In that we heartily agree with them. One reason why the average Canadian is not concerned about the operation of governments is that he is not conscious of the taxes he pays. These taxes are all hidden in the price structure and are extracted painlessly.

But when the Government announced that it was going to increase postal rates to make up for the extra cost of putting postal workers on the five-day week without loss of pay, it seemed a sound step to us. Here at last was a government coming out boldly and emphasizing the inter-connection between wages and prices. Wages go up and prices have to go up. Hitherto there has been a general conspiracy to hide the fact that wage and prices were at all connected.

So what did the Tories do in Parliament when this salutary reform was brought forward? They screamed in protest and wanted Heaven and earth moved to the right and left to avoid a raise in the postal rates. Do anything, they said, but don't raise the postal rates!

Now we're quite prepared to go along with the Tories in some of their criticism of the postal department. It pushes us around both coming and going. But we don't see how its efficiency or lack of it has anything to do with the postal rate argument. By all means let's try to raise its efficiency. But let's not be fooled by any nonsense about increasing the department's efficiency by enough to take care of the extra cost of the live-day week.

As a matter of fact, we think that a fot of good would be done this country if everybody followed the example of the Post Office. Every time costs are increased by whatever reason, let's show the increase on the price tag. The first step, surely, toward arousing the public to the cost of government is to hammer home how these costs affect their pocket-books. That can't be done when the costs are hidden in the price structure.

#### Guess who?

THE series of articles on Science Service which "Joseph Paul" has written for the Farm and Ranch has attracted wide attention. "Joseph Paul" is a pen name used by this well-known scientist. The series has set off quite a guessing game as to the real identity of the author. Wildest guess is that this series was written by the editor of Farm and Ranch. Other guesses that have come to our attention have been: The author is a retired civil servant living in Ottawa; the author is an employee of the Alberta Government in Edmonton; he is employed at the Lethbridge Experimental Farm. None of these guesses have been even close to the target.

#### Farm and Ranch Editorials

#### Forget about "farm products" and think about wheat

POLLOWERS of our letters to the editor page will have been impressed by the haste with which trade unionists leaped to the defence of Joe Phelps following our criticism in the March issue of the Farm and Ranch

Ordinarily, our practice is not to reply to letters to the editor. We feel that people who take the time to write to an editor are entitled to a free kick, as it were. In this connection, however, two points call for at-

The first point deals with corporation profit, in this case of farm machinery concerns. As Saskatchewan farmers, who operate a flour mill, and an oil refinery in addition to their Wheat Pool, will appreciate, the key to mass production profit or loss is through-put. If a mass production plant can be kept in operation continually, profits will soar to great heights. On the other hand, when the plant is forced to operate part-time or is shut down completely for any length of time, profits are transformed into substantial losses.

It is obvious, therefore, that the profits earned by farm implement companies in recent years have had little connection with labor efficiency and productivity. They spring from the fact that farmers were loading up with equipment and in some cases they bought it through grim necessity regardless of the price. Because of the huge volume, the implement companies made substantial profits. But without the volume

they would all lose money at current prices.

The second idea is more important. It is an American importation though it has been used for so long in Canada that its origin has been obscured. This is the argument that it is important to farmers for workers in industry to have high incomes. The higher their wages, the argument goes, the better able will they be to buy farm products. Thus the prosperity of agriculture depends upon maintaining a high level of income of industrial workers.

The fallacy here can be quickly demonstrated. The prosperity of Canadian agriculture rests upon the price we get for our major crops — wheat and meat. If industrial wages were doubled overnight it would not increase the income of a single grain farmer in Western Canada. The domestic consumption of bread would not be increased to any appreciable extent.

We've got to sell our wheat in the markets of the world. It must be sold in competition with wheat from other countries. If, because of high wages, it costs more to move our grain to market, that extra cost comes out of the income of the producers.

And what about meat? It's sold mainly at home. The answer here is that just prior to foot-and-mouth disease, while the incomes of Canadians were at an all-time high, Canadian housewives stopped buying All across the country, beef encountered buyer resistance. It, we were told, had priced itself out of the market. This same buying public, with more money to spend than it ever had before, refuses to buy our good farm-produced butter and turns instead to margarine made from the by-products of the agriculturally depressed areas of the United States.

These examples demolish the notion that a community of interests exists between organized labor and Canadian agriculture. The fact is that organized labor's main interest is in obtaining its food at the lowest possible price and it consistently bends every effort to do so.

It is true that around the fringes of our economy there are some so-called farm products which are marketed exclusively to urban workers. Around all our cities are clustered truck farms, market gardens and scores of people on small holdings who raise vegetables, poultry and eggs and sell them in the cities. We concede that it is to their interest to have prosperous cities. But to define these people as "farmers" is to make a mockery of the language. To include their production in "agriculture" is likewise

If all this fringe production was gathered together into one lump, it would still be of no consequence compared to our wheat and meat production. The farmers of the prairies live or die by the price of their wheat and meat. That price is unrelated to the wage level of industry except insofar as that level has a depressing affect on farm

So it seems to us that prairie farm leaders have a full-time job on their hands doing nothing but taking care of the problems of the real farmers. Let them devote their attention to those problems. Solve them, and the rest were of no consequence. But solve all the others and nothing is accomplished unless we can sell our wheat. The leaders of the Farmers' Unions, who are wheat farmers primarily, surely ought to understand these simple facts.

come with better grace if it did something constructive itself to fill the vacancies in the

remote schools of this province. For our part, we've heard about enough from the teachers about the teaching "profession". It has always been our idea that professional people were those who practiced a profession by making their services available for hire. Lawyers, doctors, dentists, architects and chiropractors open offices and invite public patronage. are free enterprisers whose profession is synonymous with independence. If they succeed in selling their services to the pub-It seems to us that the teachers have lic, they will make a comfortable living. If they fail, they'll go hungry. They stand or fall by their own initiative and ability.

> How do teachers get into this "professional" status? They work for the wages that their unions negotiate, and under working conditions arranged between union and employer. None of them risks his livelihood on his ability to attract and hold sufficient public patronage.

Another entry to the professions is by way of academic attainment. A person who spends six or seven years acquiring the foundation for a professional career is surely in a different category than one who spends a half or a quarter of that time in training. Until it becomes more difficult to become a teacher than to become an electrician or a plumber, there is no logic in one being defined as a "profession" and the others as

In all this the teachers are not alone. Great harm was done to journalism when it became involved in the "professional status" racket. Too often the graduates of schools of journalism learned all the techniques of journalism except how to use their heads. Our agronomists are another group suffering from an attack of the "professional status" bug. Most of the doctors of philosophy in agriculture currently being graduated want no part of real professional status. They don't want to set themselves up in business and stand or fall on their ability, like doctors of dentistry or doctors of medicine. They want most of all a good paying government job, with holidays with pay, generous sick leave and pensions at 65. And that just about sums up what the teachers are after. It can be defined in a number of ways, but certainly not by the use of the word "professional".

### "Professional status"? is mainly the bunk

T'S about time that the school teachers of this country 'make up their minds about what they want. Half the time they behave like rather boisterous trade unionists. The other half they work at selling themselves to the public as "professional" people. No modern teacher would think of referring to his or her calling as a trade or a craft. It is always "the teaching profession". But when something like the teacher shortage develops the only solution the teachers can offer is to demand higher wages and greater "professional" recogni-

impaled themselves rather securely on a dilemma. If they insist on behaving as a trades union, which they do for settling wage and other disputes, they ought to accept the responsibilities of a union. For example, when an employer signs a contract with some unions, the unions undertakes to staff his plant. The Alberta teachers' union has been highly critical of the short course for teachers. Its protests would

THE two hydrogen bombs which the United States exploded in the Pacific in March have led to some new thinking about relations between Russia and the West. Prime Minister Churchill said that the bomb, in the hands of the United States, is a deterrent to war, because Russia would be afraid to start one. But Russia is also known to be in possession of this weapon, and the temptation must be very great to Russia or the U.S. to use it, in the hope of gaining a quick victory. Hence the warning contained in the Easter messages of such religious leaders as the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury, that peace cannot be built on fear, but must be founded on international control of armaments.

The first bomb, exploded on March 1, shook the civilized world when the facts about it became known. The available instruments were insufficient to measure the exact force of the explosion, but it was at least 600 times greater than that of the first atomic bomb dropped at Hiroshima. Radioactive ash from the bomb affected fishermen on a Japanese boat 80 miles from the explosion, and natives and American weather observers on an island almost 200 miles away. According to Dr. Strauss, chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, the explosion would have been sufficient to destroy en-

#### The next nightmare is the Cobalt bomb

These facts gave substance to the reiterated statements of men like Prime Minister St. Laurent, and Mr. Pearson, the minister of external affairs, that civilization itself would not survive another war. But the hydrogen bomb is not all. There is evidently worse to come—the cobalt bomb.

#### Radio-active dust

The hydrogen bombs dropped in March were encased in steel The steel is reduced to ash, but it does not become radioactive. Cobalt. however, does, and it is now ap-

tirely any city in the world, in- parently possible to use this cluding the city of New York. material as a shell, with the possibility, theoretically, of creating a radioactive cloud of cobalt dust that would destroy almost all life on earth. Professor Einstein forecast this possibility in 1950, and now it is confirmed.

> The hydrogen bomb is composed of the element tritium. and heavy hydrogen, or deuterium. An atomic bomb, used as the detonator, is exploded and this creates enough heat to fuse the tritium and deuterium. When the tritium and deuterium neutrons are fused, it is not a question of two plus two equ-

als four, but two plus two equals five. New, free neutrons are formed, but instead of being a mass, they take the form of energy, releasing a tremendous explosion. If cobalt is bombarded with the free neutrons, it gives off deadly gamma rays 320 times more powerful than the radiation emitted by radi-um. One kilogram (2.2 pounds) of material used in the hydrogen bomb could produce 200 grams of free neutrons. If used to make cobalt radioactive, a substance equal in radiation to 3,448 pounds of radium would be created.

According to Prof. Harrison Brown, of the California Ins-stitute of Technology, a cobalt bomb containing a ton of deuterium could be set off 1,000 miles from the California coast and prevailing winds would carry the radioactive dust to California in "about a day, New York in four or five days, Killing most life as it traverses the continent." A bomb set off at about Prague's longitude would send a cloud to the Ural Mountains, killing whatever was in its path. And 400 such bombs would release enough radioactivity to destroy all life.

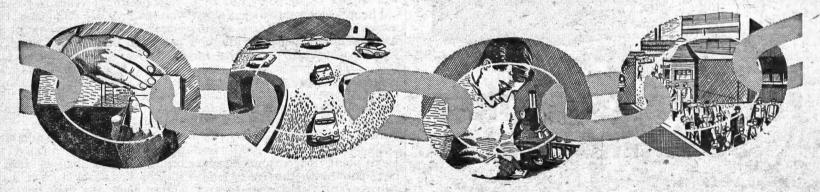
These are the new facts of the atomic age. They create issues which require something better in the way of a solution than the old balance of power policies, and piling up of armaments, if humanity is to find

#### Feeders' day June 5th

THE Department of Animal Science, University of Alberta, is presenting its Thirty-third Annual Feeders' Day at the University Livestock Farm on Saturday, June 5. The program, beginning at 10 a.m., provides an opportunity to inspect the University herds and flocks and features the presentation and discussion of results of experiments completed during the past twelve months.

These include studies on the value of vitamin, mineral and antibiotic supplements in swine antibiotic supplements in swine feeds; creep rations for suckling pigs; chemical and feeding tests on forage crop énsilage; grass fattening of beef; use of urea and cobalt in rations for fattening lambs; and milk replacers for dairy calves. Dr. O'Donoghue will discuss and welcome questions on veterinwelcome questions on veterin-ary problems.

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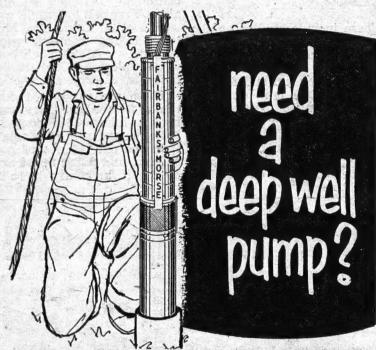


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What next?



You see here one house being made into two. Ine top is being taken off and moved to another site. The bottom half will remain as is. Art Veroba, Box 110 Lampman, Sask., won \$5 for the picture.

## So you would like a farm at the coast?

THREE years ago I waived "good-bye" to a friend and his wife. He turned the car eastward, heading back he said, "to the sunshine of Saskatchewan."

I hear from them at least once a year now. They are again happy, contented people and no longer yearn for a home in B.C. Two winters of dull, cloudy weather stretched into twenty-four months of dreaming about the friends and comfortable home they had left behind.

Their's was an unusual case. I can point to ten families who have moved to the coast from Alberta and Saskatchewan and enjoy every moment of life in this western community, to every one who returned because they were disappointed in what they found

they were disappointed in what they found.

That is not counting the settlers who were not financially able to make the return trip; the numberless persons who gambled everything to start a new life in the extreme west. It does not include those who bought farms from strangers on the promise of unbelievable yields.

A thorough statistician could make a survey and reveal remarkable expenses incurred in moving household effects westward. After every avenue has been explored carefully you will find additional charges, Even holding livestock over a few days for inspection can eat into a small bank balance.

Roots and Rain

Then once you are settled on the farm in paradise valley and make a more careful survey of the soil you have mortgaged your declining years to pay for, you find more stumpage than cleared land. Somehow it appeared to be good soil when you made your visit to the farm on that bright sunny day last autumn. Meanwhile the muggy rain of winter has brought those heavy cedar roots through to the surface.

Buildings, too, have a habit of developing a list. Once you bring a truck load of feed in for the hens and store it in the empty shed, the floor begins to sag in the corner. You scratch your thinning hair in wonder at the way the floor joists develop a dry-rot before you really get into production. There are expenses for rebuilding the poultry house or the loft in the dairy barn.

Surprisingly the prairie farmers I have met always seemed capable of undertaking these adjustments with a smile. Maybe to them these trying episodes were no greater than a wall of dark foreboding dust on the horizon, or the black cloud which presaged another hail storm. Possibly they have all become so accustomed to tribulation that minor upsets of this nature are not disturbing.

Anyone who is capable of such a stoic attitude should have no difficulty in locating a farm on Vancouver Island or

in the lower Fraser Valley reports of the economists who where he can enjoy the milder made a study of their books. but undoubtedly damper climate But despite those favorable reof the coast. He will, with work, be able to develop a farm business which will keep him well occupied from early in the morning until late evening. And for his effort he will enjoy a comfortable home and will be close enough to the sea to get there once in a while and take a deep breath of salt air before going back to the farm for the chores.

Possibly I have made the picture of a small farm in the Fraser Valley a little bleak. I would much sooner do that than be accused at some later date of being responsible for enticing someone who has fleetingly wondered about moving west, to take the jump on my sayso.

You might compare the en-thusiasm of the B.C. residents thusiasm of the B.C. residents to a happily married young lady who does her best to find husbands for all of her friends. What made her happy must in her opinion, make others happy. Likewise the continual green of the green in the first the green in the first than the first t the grass, the color in the firs and cedars on the nearby mountains, or the mountains themselves may be the attraction which draws and holds many people to the coast.

#### Great Country

When I made the move west resisted the overwhelming beauty of the mountains. I felt for a long time dwarfed by this great country of B.C. and then I came to feel at home. I had climbed a few mountains and discovered the thrill of looking over the broad valleys and when I returned to the valleys I looked back with respect to the peaks, solid against the sunset.

Their magnificence under the snow-caps of winter or their rock-like massiveness in midsummer continue to draw my admiration on first waking and at every glance I get through each day. In fact, I missed them during a lengthy trip through the east last year. Some sacrifice is justified for their inspired feeling of security.

But farming in the Fraser Valley is still farming. It can not be compared exactly with farming elsewhere, but it has its problems. The strawberry grower on the lower mainland wants a market for his berries, the strawberry grower on Van-couver Island wants irrigation to increase his yield. They both want more money for the ber-ries but can't sell them at a higher price.

There are excellent farm sites along the coast. But what good is a farm site if it will cost \$15.00 to ship a hog to market? How can you make a living if you have to write a check for \$20.00 to pay to have one ton of hay shipped to you and pay for the hay too?

Good poultry farmers in the Fraser Valley managed to show a profit on their farms last year. They earned a fair wage for the work they did according to the I think he is right.

of Rabiel Tovingway he ame?

ports I heard complaints that here was no money in poultry. Reasons for those complaints are shown in the figures the economists unearthed.

Most of the poultry farmers are specializing in egg production or meat production. They seldom have more than a few acres and depend on the feed supply companies for every-thing from the laying mash to the fine granite grit they give the chicks to chew it up.

#### Big Eaters

The average feed requirements for each hen amounts to 112 pounds. A man with 1,000 layers must be prepared to pur-chase at least 56 tons of mash which at present prices would cost almost \$4,500.00.

Add to that feed cost the investment required to purchase or raise the 1,000 pullets. It runs into a figure close to \$6,500.00 which must be earned before the eggs will begin to pay wages or profits. Unless management experience is good he may find that hens fail to lay an egg every day or even every other day.

A survey of 117 flocks in the Fraser Valley showed that the rate of lay could vary anywhere from 26.1% to 68.3%. Disease outbreaks can catch even the best poultrymen off-

A farmer with 2 or 3 thousand layers instead of the average flock of 6 to 800 may expect larger income than most of the poultry farmers in the Fraser Valley. But if you were average then your returns from eggs during the last couple of years might have worked out to 50c an hour for the 2,000 hours you and your family devoted to the hens.

A man working a forty-hour week for fifty weeks would be disappointed with a \$1,000.00 income but there are many poultry farmers working for that in the Fraser Valley. Unless the price of eggs is maintained during the year 1954 many of them may be working for less.

Those are the reasons that one farmer told me the other day that he was thankful for a part-time job that paid him a regular salary. He said his 500 laying hens had done fairly well last year. They earned him 54c an hour for his work and helped to supplement his earnings in

"Would you advise anyone to move to the coast now with the hope of making a living from poultry?" I asked him. "No, sir," was his quick reply. "Property has gone up since I bought nine years are and access the with the nine years ago and eggs are go-ing down. Feed prices are al-most the same and I spend twothirds of the egg money for feed."

That's a farmer's opinion and

asheled Make Hehie & L



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#### Big science needs her sails trimmed

By JOSEPH PAUL

MARQUIS wheat was developed at a time when the Dominion Government was spending about 1 million dollars per year to operate the whole Department of Agriculture, and the Experimental Farms Service was getting about \$150,000 per year. Nowadays the Department takes around \$70 million and spends over \$7 million on the Experimental Farms and a like amount on Science Service.

Doesn't it seem strange that, until very recent years, we would hear about Marquis wheat every time a larger appropriation was wanted for research. Now, thank goodness, the old record has been changed for one which sings the praises of Selkirk; but that is another story. Right now we should be figuring the possibilities of getting a larger return for our research millions.

#### Bad Habits

In the first place, there are habits of thinking which should be broken. We have been led to believe that big science is good science. If one laboratory with a staff of 25 doesn't get results, our representatives vote more money, build another "lab" and hire another staff of 25. If that doesn't get results, they increase the establishment to a staff of 50 at each "lab". Then they come back for re-election and brag about their progressive policy on farm research—and we believe them.

The secrets of biology do not yield to the assault system of attack; not even when the force is made up of specialized platoons. It has usually been the way of nature to yield her secrets to those who come alone and work quietly; especially when they know what they are looking for.

That brings up the problem of the touchy temperamental scientist, too often found in administrative positions. This kind is most critical of the "paltry sums" now appropriated to his chosen line of work. But if a visiting member of parliament asks him to describe the pressing problems of agriculture which he would like to solve; he will go into an evasive lingo about "fundamental research and a co-ordinated far-reaching and long-time point of view."

That sort of fellow has no more right to an appropriation of public money than a drunken driver has to a fresh tank of gasoline. He might do good work in a non-administrative post in a small organization, but big science has no place for him.

Suppose you relieve this man of his administrative load and

place him in Science Service for example.

He might wind up studying the nutrition of larch sawflies under the Officer in Charge of a forest biology laboratory;

Under the Chief of the Division of Forest Biology;

Under the Regional Research Advisor (Prairie Provinces);

Under the Director of Science Service;

With a few assistant chiefs and associate directors sandwiched in between.

With a Civil Service Commission and the Personnel Officers of the Service trying to justify their existence; it adds up to an overhead that would kill the initiative of an army sergeant.

Then our frustrated friend would be assigned to various "research teams" to work on "co-operative projects". Thus he would be expected to walk the loose rope of co-operation with staff members of such other organizations as the Experimental Farms Service and Provincial Universities.

But the scientist has an effective escape from the annoyance of over-organization. He becomes a super specialist; gradually narrowing his work, down to the point where no one understands it, so no one is interested, so no one interferes.

There are too many intermediate levels of officialdom, and they are overloaded. The Experimental Farm Service is worse off than Science Service, but that is only a matter of age. In these two services there are around 300 officers in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year salary range. An alarmingly small number of this group have been stolen in recent years by the reputedly big money of industry or by the prolific American dollar.

Our top-heavy system of superannuation is partly to blame. It seems as though the only policy of reform in keeping with, our best humanitarian instincts, is one of retirement through natural causes with a rigid restriction of replacements.

Theories about the economy and efficiency of big science may look as good as ever on paper; but they just haven't worked out in practice. If we are going to get a better return on our research dollar, the work should be done and paid for by the Department or industry that has the problem and intends to use the results. The National Research Council was set up to promote that sort of development and to provide an over-all co-ordination of effort where it was needed. But in recent years

they, too, have drifted into the race for bigger and better laboratories, free from the distracting influence of classrooms.

#### Reverse Trend

We should reverse the trend of separating research from teaching. Many of our most oproductive research workers have been university professors. In fact, when you check over the western colleges it seems the best teachers are the most useful research workers and it works both ways. There is works both ways. nothing like a new crop of students each year to keep a person in touch with the outer world. A scientist really knows his subject when he can teach it to a class of freshmen. A well-trained generation of young farmers would be worth more than all our research institutions; but that is beside the point.

#### Paper Chase

The fad of producing articles and leaflets, to build up a big record of scientific authorship, should be stamped out without further ado. It has now reached the point where it is more than a full-time job for any research worker to honestly review all the literature related to his work. He must pick his way carefully through reams of useless articles to keep from missing a few worth-while items. The result is a choice between slip-shod study or a narrowing of interest.

Another time consuming ritual is the writing of reports. Daily, weekly, monthly, annual, unit reports, regional and divi-

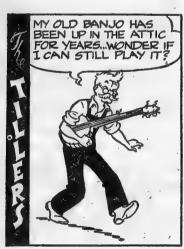
sional reports; each designed to adorn the desks of medium and high-grade officials; who collect reports with the avid interest of an Indian maiden stringing beads — and often with less purpose.

All appointments to Federal jobs are supposed to be made by the Civil Service Commission and the applicants are presumably chosen on a competitive basis. Now it is tacitly understood that such a system is all right in theory, but it just doesn't work when appointing scientists. However, it might be worth an honest trial. It might prevent the growth of departmental dynasties based on family ties, the bonds of friendship, and what might politely be called similar idealogies.

What are the chances of improvement? Unfortunately they are very poor. It is all a matter of public opinion; and public opinion is influenced to a great extent by the increasing deluge of articles and radio publicity which sings the praises of the agricultural scientist; prepared mostly by members of the same professional group.

As long as public opinion takes everything bearing the label of "Science", and holds it above suspicion and beyond criticism; no politician in his right mind will get up in parliament and argue for a reduction of expenditure through the streamlining of these services.

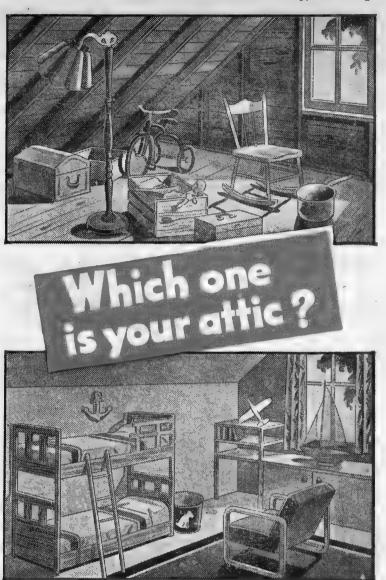
This is the third of a series of articles by Joseph Paul. The concluding article will appear next month.





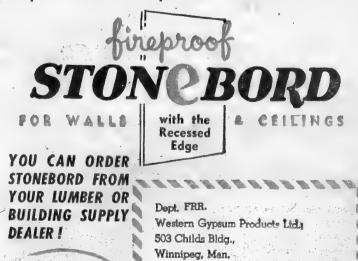






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#### Old Dobbin is down but he is not out yet

By GRANT MacEWEN

THERE was something distinctive and ominous about the Calgary Horse Sale of 1954, one of the two hardy survivors among Western Canada's once numerous horse sale annuals. The changing character of the horse industry was plainly evident in that recent event. It was more than coincidence that coat colors were more varied than ever, that draft horses, though reduced in numbers, were fatter and showing fewer harness marks and that average age of the drafters hinted at retirement and pensions.

In the course of the two-day sale, 241 light horses and ponies sold at an average of \$90.44, and 170 draft horses averaged \$78.24. While light horse and pony entries were higher than in 1953, the draft horse entries had dropped to less than half. Said one well-known dealer about the draft horses: "They're just not in the country." But of the 411 head representing a dozen different types, the over-all average of \$85.39 per head was almost \$15.00 higher than the general average of the previous year.

#### Fox Meat

Perhaps the main reason for the increased average price on heavy horses was the stronger demand for meat horses from United States sources. Paying as high as \$75.00 a head for heavy horses, those agents of processing plants in Oregon, Idaho and Montana, seemed to be taking nearly half of the horses during the first day of the sale. From the ringside it the sale. From the ringside, it appeared that those buying for the plants were bidding at approximately four cents a pound, and thus furnishing a higher floor-price than the contributors of heavy horses had enjoyed for many years.

The last people to feel the de-pression into which the draft horse breeders fell a number of years ago, were the dealers and shippers. Long after many western farmers stopped breeding and using heavy horses, dealers were able to buy the long-lived horses in large numbers, shipping the best ones to lumber camps and farming districts in Quebec and the Maritime Provinces, and the poorest ones to processing plants at Ed-monton and Swift Current. But if one were to judge from the record of the recent sale and the expressions from men who have handled many thousands of horses for inter-provincial trade, that business has about ended.

"One must travel too far in the country to secure a carload of horses now," one of the shippers remarked sadly. And even at the conclusion of the recent Calgary Sale, some of the well-

known dealers complained that they had not been able to make up a single carload. One of them was seen attempting to com-plete a carload for shipment to the Maritimes by the purchase of ponies and when he bought a stout-bodied specimen of about 13 hands in height, he remarked that it would make a pit-pony for one of the mines.

Nothing about the horses as-sembled for the recent sale was more striking than the diversity of types and colors and the obvious disrespect that a large section of the light horse fraternity has shown toward the sovereignty enjoyed by pure breeds in other years. The highest price of the entire sale, namely, \$360.00, was paid for a pinto stallion which, a few years ago, would have been years ago, would have been seen in many Pure-bred Sire Areas and Approved Stallion Districts of Western Canada, as something illegal. The albino stallion that brought the second highest price of the sale, (\$320.00) would be in the same position. position.

#### Lost Glamor

It made one realize that much of the time and money spent in trying to restrict breeders to the use of pure-bred stallions of approved breeds in other years was wasted. The point is that many light horse people broke with orthodoxy, with no evident ill effect. It would not be sur-prising if producers of some classes of livestock will see "King Pedigree" lose a good deal of his traditional power to function and performance.

With height ranging from 10 to 17 hands and coat colors varying from albino to Appoloosa, every light horse at the recent sale seemed capable of filling some particular need, pleasure hack, polo pony, hunter, stock horse or something else. And for making trips to country schools five days a week and furnishing companionship for young people, some of the so-called "misfit" ponies with uncertain antecedents, would be difficult to improve upon.

One thing remaining unchanged was the public interest as huge crowds of both rural and urban people filled the seats and jammed the ringside at Victoria Pavilion on both days of the sale. It was estimated that 3,000 people were present on the second day when the light horses were going through the ring, and almost as many on the first day.

The fortunes of the horse have changed greatly but the Canadian's sentiment for the noble horse has not deteriorated. Most stockmen will confess a strong interest in horses. At the ringside at Calgary, no single group was more conspicuous among spectators and bidders, than the cattlemen; some wanted stock horses, some had their eyes fixed upon pleasure horses or children's ponies and others just wanted to be there.

Quite obviously, no class of farm animals has suffered more violent changes on North American soil than the horse species. This continent may have been the earliest home of that animal and the ancient rocks reveal the fossilized story of development from primitive forms no bigger than wire-haired terriers. But the prehistoric horse while flourished, changes led to its extinction long before the white man arrived. With agricultural expansion in the past century, however, horses bred from imported European strains became numerous again and 40 years ago there was no more flourishing business than that of importing and breeding horses to meet the needs of homesteaders who had tough sod to break and were not satisfied with the slow moving oxen.

Every farmer was a horseman and in 1921, Canada's horse population was 3,610,494. The number represented about five horses per farm in all Canada. That, however, was the peak and as smaller and handier ada. farm tractors created competihorse numbers declined. tion, The decline was steady to 1941 when Canada's horses numbered 2,845,000. But the last twelve or thirteen years have witness-ed sharper decreases until there are just about a million horses left in Canada. To project that falling population curve into the future, would be to suggest extinction about 1963. Nobody really believes that the horse will become extinct but with absence of interest in breeding draft horses, supply could and probably will fall well below actual needs.

Canada's present supply of horses distributed evenly among the 625,000 farms in the nation would fail to provide a two-horse-team per farm. Not even by harnessing the pleasure horses, race horses, school ponies and stock horses would there be a team for every farm.

The present population would allow just over 1½ horses per farm and of the honest-to-goodness drafters, there would be little more than one horse per farm which would come far short if all decided to move manure and do some winter hauling with horses.

#### More Tractors

As everybody knows, the decline in draft horse numbers came in the wake of growing tractor population and for all of Canada there were about 70 tractors per hundred farms in 1952. In the United States they have about 76 tractors per 100 farms and 125 horses and mules per 100 farms. Thus there are slightly more tractors and slightly fewer horses and mules per 100 farms than in Canada. In the Canadian Mid-West, trac-

tors now average about one per farm.

The position of saddle horses is stable enough. On ranches and mixed farms, one or more saddlers of active but sturdy type must be seen as essential. Pleasure horses are maintaining popularity and an increasing number of parents are concluding that children need animal pets for their cultural value, sort of an offset to a mechanized age.

But Canada's draft horses are old on the average and hence their life expectancy is low which must explain the accelerated rate of decrease in horse numbers in recent years. Draft horse foals, once commonplace in the fields along the highway, are sufficiently rare that some motorists will stop for a second look. The Canadian National Live Stock Records serving the whole of Canada registered 144 Percherons, 138 Belgians and 86 Clydesdales in 1953. The 1953 total of 368 for the three draft breeds would compare with 3,195 registered in 1937.

There continues to be some demand for work horses on farms, even though nearly one-half of the draft horses that went through the Calgary sale were bought for export to processing plants in the United States. The high-priced drafter at the recent sale, a 2,100-lb. Belgian gelding that sold for \$290.00 was not bought for bush work or use on city streets but rather, to go back to farm work at Granum, Alta. And in many parts of Canada, especially in the East, less than two horses per farm will continue to be considered uneconomical and inadequate.

While farm prosperity continues, tractor popularity will continue and rightly so. If farm markets were to deteriorate markedly, however, work horses for farm use would win back at least a few friends, Tractors and trucks which consume cash fuel every time they operate would lose some measure of their appeal and be less likely to be called upon to do those jobs that a team of handy horses could do as well.

The propogation of the saddle horses of working and pleasure types is assured but if Canadian farms really need some heavy horses, say half a million head, an effort should be made toward breeding for even that small number or the very foundation stock will be too old for breeding.

The Nova Scotia department of agriculture says that 5-pound fryers are now being produced at 13 weeks of age on 16½ pounds of feed. Twenty years ago it required 20 weeks and 23 pounds of feed to produce 5-pound fryers. The department says that the reduction of 28 per cent in feed and 35 per cent in time can be attributed mainly to research in nutrition and genetics.



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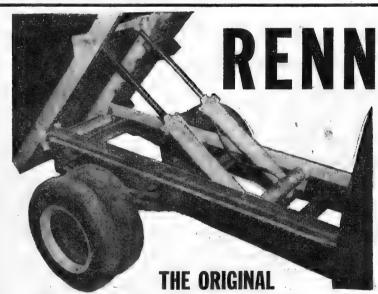
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#### Roost poles for hawks help control rodents

By KERRY WOOD

SASKATCHEWAN farmer A saskaroundary writes: "My farm is on the bald prairie, with not even telephone poles alongside the wheat fields. I believe that fence posts aren't tall enough to interest hawks as perches, and without tall perching places, they're not apt to hang around my land and kill mice and gophers. Owls would probably like high perches too, from which they could swoop down on mice and moles. Growing trees is too slow a process to help solve my immediate problem; have you any suggestions ?"

Praises be! A farmer who actually wants to encourage hawks and owls around his farm, because he knows that birds of prey feed upon ground squirrels, mice, and pocket go-phers—commonly called moles. I promptly wrote the gentleman about the stunt used by some German farmers, as told to me by a new Canadian. He said that farmers in the wheat growing parts of Germany who wanted to encourage buzzards (the broad-winged, soaring hawks such as Redtail, Swainson's, and Roughleg Hawks of Western Canada) and the mouse-catching harrier hawks, (such as our arch-winged Marsh Hawk, which is the only North American harrier) made a regular practice of putting up hawk-roosts alongside their farm fields.

These were constructed of slender poles about twenty feet long, with a yard long cross piece at the top which makes the roost look like a capital T. They sometimes added smaller cross pieces lower down the pole, so that the roost would also prove attractive to insectivorous birds of the sparrow and warbler species.

#### Good Idea

A hawk-roost is a splendid idea and can be strongly recommended for prairie farms. once used a similar roost-pole many years ago to make a treeless garden more interesting for song birds. Our first home was a little house at the edge of a forest, but the garden was part of an old flat hayfield. After we got our property fenced and a start made at planting hedges and suitable ornamental and fruit trees, the place still wasn't attractive for birds. Various bird-boxes had been spaced around the premises, no less than thirty different boxes ranging from multiple-roomed Purple Martin boxes down to the deep pocket boxes hidden in dense shrubbery to coax chikadees to meet nearby, but the garden part looked woefully barren that first year.

So we got some spruce poles, slender and long. A cross piece of half-inch wood was

nailed and wire-lashed onto the pole tops, with other cross pieces attached lower down. down. Four were assembled and nailed to fence posts to rear skywards. One Tree Swallow was so eager to perch on the new roost that the bird didn't wait until I'd finished nailing it to the fence post, with the result that the swallow squawked every time the hammer blows caused a vibration shock that tickled the bird's feet.

We made the perch-poles fancier during the next year. We painted them gay colors, adding a decorative touch to the garden scene. The birds didn't shy away from the bright colors, happy to have convenient perches around our yard. At a time when there were only two Purple Martin colonies established within three miles of our garden, we were able to coax a colony to settle in our back yard — and I think the perch-poles might have been the deciding factor with the birds. Martins love to sit around on comfortable perches and gossip back and forth. Among other birds using those perches were Tree Swallows, Robins, Wrens, Baltimore Orioles, Vesper and Song Sparrows, Yellow and Myrtle Warblers, Woodpeckers and even a Mourning Dove at times, Occasionally a Sparrow Hawk perched there and helped keep the garden free of grass-We used the perchhoppers. poles until shrubs and trees were large enough to take their place.

#### Tall Poles

Away from a garden and alongside the grain fields, the tall perch-poles would be used by rodent-eating hawks and owls to scout the surroundings for pestulent victims. If your farm lacks trees or telephone posts near the grain fields, just get yourself a batch of slim saplings and make a number of T perches to fasten to the fence posts. The higher the better for birds of prey, while lower perches will appeal to insect-eating small birds. Roost-poles are only substitutes, however, for the natural tree perches the birds prefer. Plantings of suitable trees along the fence rows, also setting out trees and shrubbery in the corners of fields will make your farm a haven for avian friends, who'll repay you for the kindness by helping control insect and rodent pests.

Bird boxes and water never fail to attract birds around the farm home. Bird-box plans may be obtained from your nearest government agriculturist's office and built of scrap lumber. A bird-bath placed in the middle of the garden or lawn will bring birds from near and far all summer long, but an elaborate

concrete bird bath isn't necessary. A shallow tin pan will serve as well, if mounted on a post out of reach of cats and kept supplied with fresh water. We have over a dozen different varieties of birds using our 8 by 10-inch cake pan bird-bath every day from May until Au-gust—Robins, Cedar Waxwings, Cathinds Chinning Sang and Catbirds, Chipping, Song, and White-throated Sparrows, Yellow Warblers, Goldfinches, Pine Siskins, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Chickadees and Nuthatches, and the amusing Blue Jays.

#### Need Help

Some farmers argue that this is spoiling the birds, pampering them with bird-boxes, waterpans, and so on. The truth is that many birds have been ruthlessly deprived of their natural nesting sites, such as the old nesting cavities in dead trees and hollow stumps.

Most farmers have a tidy habit of keeping dead trees and stumps cleared out of wood lots, which means that the cavity nesting birds such as Purple Martins, Tree Swallows, Blue-birds, Sparrow Hawks, and Crested Flycatchers have to fly past such neat woodlots and search for suitable nesting sites in more remote areas. That's why it is necessary to supply them with bird-boxes, to persuade them to settle near our holdings.

Clearing the land has had an adverse effect upon water tables too; we've drained many a slough and pothole that once furnished birds with all the drinking and bathing water they needed. Therefore we should supply them with bird-baths, helping to make our premises a good home-site for useful and beautiful birds. And if your wheat fields are bald of tree cover, set out a batch of Roostpoles and watch the hawks use them as watch-towers from which they can hunt grain-eating mice and gophers.

#### Hog Quality Declining

AUTHORITIES are becoming alarmed at the steady decline in the quality of Canadian hogs. That tendency is particularly noticeable, in Alberta, and this province is second among Canadian provinces in hog production.

Slightly below 20 per cent of all the hogs marketed in Alberta last year graded "A". Manitoba and Saskatchewan were a little better with 23 per cent of de-liveries grading "A".

If this trend keeps up the price spread between the lower and higher grades is sure to

widen out.

The only hope for increasing demand for Canadian hogs in both domestic and the United States markets is to maintain quality and produce the lean animal.





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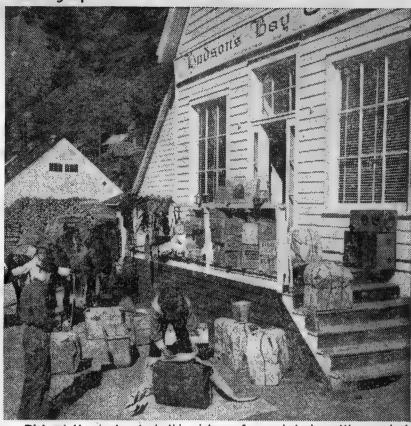
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PROVINCE

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CITY ....

Packing-up



Richard Harrington took this picture of a pack train getting ready to take off from Telegraph Creek,

#### Sweet Peas are ideal for all prairie gardens

By H. F. HARP

WHILE these delightful annuals are not so popular or as well grown as formerly, quite good samples were seen last year in some of the larger flower shows throughout the prairie region. Perhaps the work involved in growing really firstclass specimens is considered to time-consuming these days. But they are among the loveliest of summer flowers possessing a charm of their own with their distinctive form, wide range of bright colors and exquisite perfume.

Wise gardeners will have dug a sweet pea trench last fall and filled it with old garden refuse and rotted manure. Spring pre-paration of the soil should be just a matter of raking the seedbed level as soon as the soil is dry enough to work comfort-

Sow the seed two inches deep spacing them an inch apart. Germination takes about days. Later when the seedlings are a few inches high, small twiggy branches are placed for their support. A wire netting support, six feet high, is needed when the plants are a foot or so

Frequent stirring of the soil will encourage good growth, destroy seedling weeds and con-serve moisture. Lawn clipppings or peat moss may be placed to a depth of three or four inches on either side of the row to help keep the soil cool.

Spraying the plants with clear water after a hot day will be found beneficial in keeping down attacks of spider mite. COMBINE Regular attention must be paid each stake is made secure.

to the prompt removal of flowers or the development of seed pods will be ruinously exhausting. Blooms are best picked in early morning and when the topmost floret is half open.

**Exhibition Sweet Peas** 

Where flowers for the show bench are needed and the gardener is prepared to devote the necessary time to the extra work involved, fine specimens can be grown by the single stem

or corden system.

Soil preparation as previously outlined will serve for this intensive form of culture, but deeper trenching and more generous supplies of manure will make for greater success. Seed is best sown in a double row fifteen inches apart and two inches deep. Drop three seeds at intervals of one foot in each row. Select the strongest plant at each station and destroy the other. When a few inches high the selected plants are pinched out. From the base of the pinched plant several strong shoots will develop. One of these shoots and only one is retained so that all the plant's energy is directed to this one shoot. All side shoots and tendrils must be removed as they appear.

Supports are placed in position before there is danger of damage by wind. Bamboo canes or any straight stakes about finger thickness will serve. One stake is placed close to each plant. A stout wire is stretched along the row about five feet from the ground being securely anchored at either end. To this,

13 " 3 1 1.

will be needed from now on.

Early flowers are best picked off in the bud stage to assist in building a strong plant. Stimulants in the form of liquid manures may be given when the plants are in full growth. Great care is needed not to give an overdose or trouble with flower buds falling will likely result.
Unless one is experienced in handling liquid manures, feeding had best be confined to complete fertilizers in dry form. Four ounces of 11-48-0 per yard of row is recommended, watering it in so that the plants get the benefit of it at once.

When the plants have reached the top of the stakes which are usually six feet high, provision must be made for their continued growth. Each one is carefully cut down from its stake, laid along the base of the row and running parallel to it. Start the end of the growth on its way up the most conveniently placed stake, carrying out the same careful attention to tying and removal of side shoots and tendrils as previously outlined.

Insects and Diseases

The common green fly or aphid is by far the most troublesome, though fortunately the most easily controlled. One teaspoonful of Black Leaf, 40% in one gallon of soft water, plus a little powdered soap, will give effective control if the insects are contacted. No time should be lost in applying control measures as these pests not only suck the life blood of the plant, they also transmit virus diseases.

Spider mite can be serious in periods of dry weather unless the plants can be sprayed with clear water each day at sundown. Modern insecticides give control. Some are extremely

poisonous. Root-rots in one form or another can be responsible for serious losses. Sterilization of the soil and seed will do much to lessen the danger. A fairly-effective method of soil sterilization is obtained by diluting one pint of commercial formaldehyde with fifteen gallons of Apply the solution in water. the fall at the rate of one gallon per square foot of trench surface. The treated area should be covered with burlap for a period of ten days or so. If sterilization is carried out in the spring a further period of a week is allowed before the fumes are entirely dispelled and seed sowing may be done with safety.

Sweet pea seed may be treated with Semesan or other commercial disinfectants to ward off fungus diseases.

Stunted plants with their leaves mottled and curled should be suspected of mosaic disease and promptly uprooted and burned as no satisfactory

remedy is known. Clean cultivation with particular attention to the prompt destruction of green fly and the burning of all diseased plants is good gardening practice, espe-

Almost daily attention to tying cially applicable to the culture of sweet peas.

is recommended named varieties of Spencer sweet peas be used rather than mixed seed. The new strain of Cuthbertson sweet peas supposedly resistant to drought, have been widely heralded. At the Dominion Experimental Station, Morden, they have failed to live up to these claims. The Spencers are considered super-

The old-fashioned Grandiflora types are esteemed for garden effect and lasting fragrance. They make effective rows of color and their fragrance is more pronounced than any others.

The Cupid sweet peas are extremely dwarf in the vine. They are said to be somewhat more tolerant of drought and less fragrant than the tall kinds. Plants are about a foot high forming rather dense, compact mounds. In prairie gardens they do not appear to enjoy much popular-

#### Seasonable Hints

The first week of May is a good time to sow annual flowers outdoors. The following list includes some of the most satisfactory varieties: Calendula, Cosmos, Clarkia, Godetia, Linaria, Shirley-Poppy, Portulaca, Larkspur, Candytuft, Nastur-tium. All these and many more may be sown now in well-drained soil.

The most common mistake is to sow the seed too thickly; each plant must have proper spacing in order to reach full development. About a foot between each plant is average distance. Dwarf-growing sorts like Candytuft may be spaced six inches apart.

#### Special Uses for Annuals

For edging beds and borders Ageratum Labelia, California Poppy, Portulaca, Candytuft.

For Summer Hedges-Kochia Cosmos, Sunflowers, Castor oil plant, 4 o'clocks.

For Climbing Purposes—Wild cucumber, Cobaen Scandens, Hyacinth Bean, Sweet Peas, Nasturtiums.

For Dry Locations—Calendu-Batchelor Buttons, Sweet Sultans, African Daisies, Petunia, Portulaca, California Pop-

For Window Boxes-Petunia, Lobelia, Sweet Allyssum, Ver-Phlox drummondi.

For Cut Flowers-Snapdragon, Sweet Peas, Calendula, Asters, Sweet Sultan, Cosmos, Larkspur, Gypsophila, Scabiosa, Zinnia.

Annuals grown for garden effect are best sown in irregular patches in a bed or border. Those wanted for cutting purposes had best be given a place in the vegetable garden where they can be grown in rows spaced about two feet apart. By thinning these plants to stand about a foot apart in the row excellent specimens can be produced and where they are wanted for the show bench the row system is preferred.

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age tool the country over. Above: The 'C-7," an integral field cultivator for John Deere "40's" and other 3-point hitch tractors. Right: The "C-4" for the John Deere "50," '60," and '70" Tractors. Tractors.

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#### The Masons and Christians

To the Editor:

Everything in the Masonic Lodge is symbolical. Square and compass do not mean what they mean to a schoolboy. In the lodge a square does not mean a square. It symbolizes something else. Square and compass may symbolize Spirit penetrating matter. Similarly, if the Bible is there, it cannot mean the Bible.

It is when we compare the contents of the Bible with the contents of Masonry that the contrast is so enormous that it is blasphemy to have the Bible in the lodge at all. The char-acteristic feature of Masonry is the endeavour to arrive at some conception of the Deity that men of all religious beliefs may unite to worship without parting with any of their old beliefs. But the essential feature of the Bible is the revelation of God as the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ in such an exclusive sense, that men of all other faiths must abandon their religion before they can join in the worship of the true God.

The Rev. Hubert Thornton Trapp, vicar of London's Anglican church of St. Mary Magdalene, challenged the Archbishop of Canterbury to "come out into the open" about Freemasonry. Declaring in his parish magazine that "the Christians' "God and the Masons' God are not one and the same . . . the two loyalties are in conflict, he announced that he would bar any clergy-



man who is a Mason from Convention preaching or ministering to his congregation.

At Lambeth Palace it was announced that Dr. Geoffrey Francis Fisher, Archbishop of Mason and Canterbury, "does not wish to reply to the article.

J. Caldwell.

Saltcoats.

#### Cold Summer

To the Editor:

Saw an article in the paper regards a "Cold Summer in Alberta". I worked on a Cochrane ranch in 1887; camped for a while at Sawmill Cochrane on the 11th and 12th July. Me and my pard slept in a hay loft, and a few other fellows got up in the morning and there was an icicle 5 inches long at the end of the trough There was a few acres of oats east of there. They were frozen to the ground. Worked in the bush north of the mill quite a while; moved to another place, near a bridge on the tram line; used it for a stable and slept in a tent to the 15th of December, then moved to Calgary.

W. G. Evans. 609 West Reece Ave., Chilliwack, B.C.



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#### echo

To the Editor:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter to the Western Stockgrowers Association which I hope you will publish because it raises a question of importance to prairie farmers who raise cattle.

Yours very truly.

Gordon Gehman. Okotoks, Alberta.

To the Board of Directors, Western Stock Growers Association, Calgary, Alberta.

Dear Sirs:

Having been a member of The Western Stock Growers Association for only one year, it is with considerable hesitation that I offer this sincere, and I hope constructive criticism of an organization that is older in years of experience than I am.

Let it be thoroughly understood that I do not propose to discuss the merits of Marketing Boards, either pro or con, in this letter my criticism is of the undemocratic and unparliamentary procedure followed at the W.S.G.A. convention on February convention on February 12th, 1954, in passing the resolution commending the Government for refusing to grant Marketing Board legislation.

The mover first read the resolution and then continued right on and spoke to it. The Chairman then asked for any further discussion and receiving no immediate response called for the vote. As hands were raised the secretary reminded the Chairman that the motion had not been seconded, which was immediately done by Allie Streeter and the vote taken immediately and declared unanimous. We were denied the democratic right of discussing the resolution after it was duly seconded and legally before the convention.

The mover of the resolution spoke of the importance of maintaining our individual freedom and the right of free choice while at the same time moving a resolution commending the Government for denying us the right of free choice. As to Marketing Boards; Marketing Board legislation is not a marketing board.

The majority of us as individuals criticize the Government's dictatorial method of denying us the right of free choice concerning the large municipalities. Why should we as an association commend the Government for using the same dictatorial method in denying us the right of free choice by refusing Marketing Board legislation.

In speaking of the resolution the Mover used the illustration of the foolish pony which sold his freedom for the rattle of an empty pail. I ask you in all sincerity, who would be the fools when we criticize the Government for throwing a noose around our necks, then almost with the same breath we commend them for drawing it tight. May I suggest that you as a board of directors "Think on These Things".

I have one more comment to make at this time. The passing of that resolution has curtailed the 1954 membership. I talked with several small stock raisers like myself who were at the convention. When I was not asked them individually if they were in yields.

members of the W.S.G.A. they answered very emphatically, I don't intend to be now."

#### Teaching then and now

To the Editor:

\_I have just been reading your editorial in the April Farm & Ranch Review. You mention that in Alberta it takes a 4-year apprenticeship to make a plumber or electrician, but only one year for a teacher.

You may be interested to know that when I begun teaching 62 years ago, at the age of 13, I had to serve a four-year apprenticeship. The first year I was a monitor, then signed an agreement to serve as an apprentice for 4 years.

The wages for the monitor was 2 shillings and sixpence a week, paid every 3 months. Then £12.10 shillings for the next year. year following £17.10. the third and £20. the fourth. My class consisted of about 30 children up to 5 years. Yes, we often got a 2-year-old and several 3's and 4's.

In the evenings I had to attend classes and each year to pass an examination.

The final year, I had to pass the Queen's Scholarship which enabled me to either go to a Training College for 2 years or study at home in order to be a Head Mistress.

When we got through, we found by experience how to teach, and I think we could compare favourably with some of the modern teachers. I taught until I came to Canada in 1920.

On another page you have a letter from some one else from England.

He mentions teachers who never read a book through. I haven't met many teachers but have noticed how few people really read and talk about what they read. Yesterday, I was talking to a High School girl, and I asked her a simple question in arithmetic. — "Suppose you were asked to multiply by 25". She was stuck and would probably have written it. But I told her to add two noughts to the figure and divide by She was quite surprised and I had to explain that 25 was onequarter of 100.

Evidently they are not taught the mental arithmetic like we were.

Pardon my poor writing, but I'm rather shaky now.

Yours truly,

(Mrs.) A. Richardson.

4071 Clydesdale St., Burnaby, B.C.

#### 2,4-D on summerfallow

SPRAYING summerfallow with 2,4-D has not appreciably reduced the number of tillage operations required to keep weeds under control in tests covering a six-year period at the Scott experimental station in Saskatchewan. Even after spraying with 2,4-D the heavy growth of volunteer grain and hard-to-kill weeds, such as wild buckwheat and prairie rose, required two or three additional tillage operations to keep the fallow relatively free of green growth. The higher cost involved in spraying with 2,4-D was not offset by any increase



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#### A Little Wheat— A Little Chaff

BY IVAN HELMER

Dispositions were sweeter Before the Parking Meter.

From a writer in the CBC Times come the following strong words:

"Why is Canada so favoured?"
What allows her to be so artistic?
Why is her quality of radio so much above others that it excludes comparison? The answer is one and only one—the CBC... It would be a black day if the CBC ever ceased to be or if its powers were ever curtailed."

And here we've thought all along it was the Hydrogen Bomb and Senator McCarthy we had to fear.

Lots of Canadian farmers are suffering from the same thing that Europeans are—a shortage of Canadian dollars.

If you have a grown-up, or nearly grown-up, family living at home you should have two cars. You never know when you might need one yourself.

According to COMMUNITY SAFETY NEWS, a safety paper published in Edmonton, there are comparatively few accidents or deaths an poor roads: "The greatest number of corpses are picked up on straight, level, dry stretches of highway. That is where the really bad ones happen. That is where the average driver gives in to the urge to "step on it." That is also where the tired driver relaxes for a short nap. His eyes may not close, but his mind does, and two or three seconds is more than enough."

It is a wise father, these days, who can tell his own son—much.

A woman had spent the winter elsewhere. Meeting her on the street after her return a friend exclaimed; "Oh how nice to see you back! We talked about you at the Club in winter."

Women are certainly funny—almost as funny as men.

Anybody can make a go of modern farming if they have about \$50,000.00 and 50 years to gamble.

What experience have you had with Hybrid chickens a subscriber wants to know. Well, we have never actually had any experience. But ever since we read that a Mrs. Grasshopper can lay about 150,000 eggs at one sitting we have an idea. If some scheme could be worked out to cross grasshoppers with hens wouldnit we have something? Even if half, or three-quarters, of the production ability was lost in the shuffle we could still retire with just a couple of these new Hybrids.

The following will surprise most people:

"If I am right it (radium research) is something far more significant from the scientific point of view. But there is something—the only word that comes near it is CANCEROUS—about Quap (pitch-blende, or radium ore), something that creeps and lives as a disease lives, by destroying; an elemental stirring disarrangement, incalculably maleficent and strange.

"This is no idle thought of mine. To my mind radio-activity is a real disease of matter. Moreover, it is a contagious disease. It spreads. You bring these debased and crumbling atoms near others and those presently catch the trick of swinging themselves out of coherent existence. It is in matter exactly what the decay of our old culture is in society, a loss of traditions and distinctions and assured reactions. When I think of these inexplicable dissolvent centres that have come into being on our globe, I am haunted by a grotesque fancy of the ultimate eating away and dry-rotting and dispersal of all our world. So that while man still struggles and dreams his very substance will change and crumble from beneath him. I add this as a possible end to this strange byplay of matter that we call human life. Suppose, indeed, this is to be the end of our planet; no splendid climax and finale-no towering accumulation of achievements, but just—atomic decay!"

No, that is not a bit from yester-day's newspaper. It is from a novel "Tono-Bungay" written by H. G. Wells—about 1906.

#### In the book



Well the will of the Post Office department has been imposed on the people and we now have the 5 cent letter rate. Perhaps this increase was made in a spirit of helpfulness. It gives the voter something he can buy with 5 cents. Of course this is not so helpful when you go to town. Then you will need all your 5 cent pieces for parking meters, pay-station calls—and public utilities.

Still it is likely the department will find its revenue, from personal correspondence, down. A small poll conducted around our quarters would indicate this anyway.

Says one guy: "All it means to me is a few friends won't hear from me anymore. It has long been debatable that they were worth FOUR CENTS, but at 5 cents there is no doubt about the matter."

The steno says sadly she can only afford to write her boy-friend once a day now, instead of twice, and she will just have to make up for it by saying twice as endearing things.

The office boy says: "5 cents an ounce to mail a letter! Why you can get an ounce of chocolate bar for that! Besides, who ever heard of an office boy buying stamps!"

Another has been writing a rich uncle every day—as a sort of good-Will gesture. At 5 cents a day, he says, he can gather \$18.75 in a year and now make an annual lobbying trip to the old gents'. He figures the personal touch is more apt to pay off. Since the round trip fare is only \$17.30, he says he will have the price of a good dinner left over. We have asked him to drop us a line and let us know how he makes out. Not with his uncle—but where he can get a good dinner for \$1.45.

Why is it that when a woman comes in after everyone in the house is asleep the last thing she seems to take off is her high heeled shoes?

. . .

Perhaps the main trouble with the younger generation is that they come too much in contact with the older generation.

PROGRESS NOTES:

What used to be a lemon squeezer is now a juice extractor.
Only a few years ago about the most dangerous thing made from Hydrogen was peroxide blondes.

At least the H-Bomb will create employment. No doubt we will soon have thousands of government "Radio-Active Inspectors."

Almost every girl would like to be married in June—but any other month will do.

If you think progressive education is a success just ask one of your kids to sharpen an ordinary lead pencil without a pencil sharpener.

This is credited to a Texas farmer: "Ain't it a good thing we don't get ALL the government we pay for!"

Well, as one rooster said to another, as he saw the farmer come out of the barns: "Oh, oh—here comes the boss—we better get to work."





Today's biggest money's worth in self-propelled combines

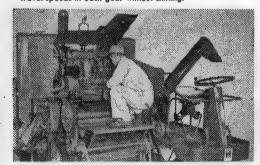


Feel the comfort of the new vertical suspensiontype seat. Note the convenience of all controls—the gear shift at your fingertips . . . the positive hydraulic platform control which permits cutting at heights from 1½ to 34 inches . . . the variable-speed propulsion control that lets you vary travel speeds in each gear without shifting.

POWER STEERING AND HYDRAULIC BRAKES

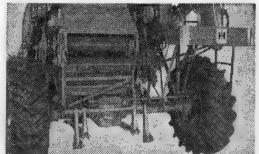
OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT

WITH EXCLUSIVE IH DOUBLE-SHAKE CLEANING TO PUT MORE AND CLEANER GRAIN IN THE TANK



Look at the new IH engine with over 22% more power than ever before. Here is adequate power to easily handle heavy, rank crops at from 1 to 5 mph despite the toughest field conditions, and also power-to travel up to 15 mph on the road. Front and rear mounted service decks make engine inspection easy at any time.

More power . . . greater capacity . . easier handling...quicker adjustments for faster grain-saving harvests! Compare the new McCormick No. 141. Check its many new features that give you better performance, greater dependability, easier handling and lower maintenance costs. Add the unmatched benefits of McCormick cutting, feeding, threshing, separating and cleaning with a 10, 12, or 14-foot cutting platform or pickup attachment. Yes, compare the McCormick No. 141 with any self-propelled combine on the market and you'll see why it is rated first.



See how the weight of the machine is equally distributed over the new axle housing for improved separator support and drive efficiency. Notice too the self-lubricating live axle with final drives fully enclosed. This sealed drive housing affords protection from the damaging effects of mud and dirt for longer, more profitable harvesting.



Notice its new, low silhouette and narrower tread for greater stability, easier storage and transport. Check the new grain tank leveling auger: Try the new automotive-type steering that permits fast, tight turns. Also, note the extensive use of seeled bearings throughout for peak performance over a longer period of time.

Look at the ALL-NEW 9-foot McCormick. **140.** It's the big-capacity pull-type combine with all the McCormick grain-saving benefits of

the No. 141. See a NEW McCormick No. 64 with 6 or 7-foot cutting platform. Gives you straight-

through combining with exclusive IH DOUBLE-

SHAKE cleaning. See your IH dealer now! He'll show you how a new McCormick with exclusive IH DOUBLE-SHAKE cleaning will help you get more and cleaner grain.

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International Harvester Company of Canada Limited Dept. [], 208 Hillyard St., Hamilton, Ontario

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New McCormick No. 141 Self-Propelled Combine

McCormick No. 140 Combine

McCormick No. 64 Combine

My IH Dealer is .....



International Harvester Company of Canada, Limited, Hamilton, Ontario



Don't buy the lay less and eat more pullets. We have them in our dual purpose, if you want them, and at very low prices. If we gave them to you for nothing they would be dear compared with our egg breeds. Our egg breeds will lay at least two dozen more eggs per year. Even at 30c per dozen this is 60c. Buy any of the for maximum egg production: R.O.P. Sired White Leghorn, White Leghorn X. Rhode Island Red, Rhode Island Red, Rhode Island Red, Rhode Island Red, Rhode Island Red X. Barred Rock, Light Sussex X. Rhode Island Red X. Light Sussex. For broilers its Nichols Ist generation New Hampshires. Also turkey poults, older pullets, 1954 catalogue.

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#### Barley will respond to good cultural practices

BECAUSE of the widespread held one inch away. At three practice of seeding barley late to control wild oats, yields at six inches. have been adversely affected. The recom No doubt many farmers are unaware of the yield potentiality of the crop when given the same opportunity as wheat. Experimental data are available in western Canada to show that barley sown early on well-prepared summerfallow land will excel the other cereal grains in both returns per acre and feed value per acre. At the Experimental Farm, Brandon, rotations in which barley is the first crop sown after summerfallow, have proved more profitable corresponding rotations with wheat as the first crop.

All experimental evidence point to the advisability of seeding barley early. The best time to sow this crop at the Brandon Experimental Farm has proved to be around the end of the first week in May. April seedings gave slightly reduced yields whereas seeding after May 15 resulted in marked reduction in yield and grade because of heat and rust damage.

Depth of seeding can also influence yields. Barley suffers more than wheat or oats from deep seeding in loose, dry soil. Data based on Manitoba results indicate that seeding should be deep enough to ensure getting the seed into moisture. Sowing deeper than this may result in lowered yields. A well-prepared, firm seed bed will eliminate much of the tendency toward too deep seeding.

Results from sowing barley at different rates are not too conclusive. It would seem, however, that over a period of years, seeding not less than one and a quarter bushels per acre and not more than one and three-quarter bushels per acre will give the best returns.

#### Heat lamps and fire hazards

OUR attention has just been drawn to an article published in the March-April issue of the "Farm Safety Review" regarding the fire hazards caused by careless use of infrared heating lamps for brooding chicks and small farm animals.

Temperatures of 660° F. were measured on the face of the lamp and 312° F. in the socket. In the tests conducted at Pennsylvania State College, using a 250-Watt lamp, straw litter was ignited when the lamp was inches it charred, and scorched

The recommendations, that have resulted from this study, are that 250-watt lamps should not be placed closer than twelve inches from the litter with additional clearance allowed where chickens or animals tend to work the litter into piles. This distance should be increased for larger lamps.

Lamps should be suspended on chains if there is any possibility of falling and protected by a hood with a lower hoop. The hoop will cause the unit to roll over if it should fall and keep the lamp from contacting the litter, and the hood protects it from breakage.

Since high socket temperatures are also fire hazards the hoods should have openings around the top to provide circulation for cooling. Porcelain sockets are usually cooler than plastic sockets.

The service cord, too, should be made of heat resistant material that will not deteorate when exposed to heat as will ordinary rubber insulations.

Infrared lamps are very useful for providing heat for brooding. They should be used in a safe manner.

#### Try a new grass

SEVERAL new grasses have been added to the list of recommended forage crops for the prairie provinces. These the prairie provinces. These grasses have certain characteristics that make them more useful than the old grasses for special conditions on many farms.

Intermediate wheatgrass generally does well where bromegrass does well. It has a strong seedling and is easily establish-It grows tall and is quite suitable for hay production as



well as for pasture. In hay tests on dryland at Swift Current. the four-year average yields in tons per acre, are as follows: intermediate wheat-grass and alfalfa 0.97, brome and alfalfa 0.86. As pasture intermediate wheatgrass is preferred by animals over most

Russian wild ryegrass is a useful pasture grass. Its forage remains green and highly nutritive through the summer and fall. The protein content of Russian wild ryegrass during August and later is about twice or three times as great as that of crested wheatgrass and most native grasses. It is, therefore, a good grass for late summer and fall pasture.

Tall wheatgrass grows tall and does relatively better than other grasses on lands inclined to be alkaline. The grass matures late and under moist conditions yields well.

Seed for several of these grasses is in short supply, but several Canadian seed companies are selling it this spring. For further information write to the Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Sask.

#### Seeding into heavy trash

VIELDS of grain are not directly related to the quantity of trash on the seed-bed provided the trash is not so heavy as to completely shade the surface of the soil, accord-ing to D. T. Anderson of the Lethbridge experimental sta-Where surface cultivation. tors have been used to maintain the maximum surface trash, excellent seeding results have been obtained with the semideep furrow drill, one-way seeder and the blade seeder. Where the one-way disc has been used to prepare the seedbed the press drill equipped with double-disc furrow-openers has given the best results.

Packing is essential, said Mr. Anderson, where seed is placed into or under the heavy trash cover. It does not always increase yields but it results in more uniform stands being produced. The greatest benefits from packing have been noted when the grain has been seeded in one operation with the one-way tiller or the blade seeder.

#### Treating for warbles

The same of the sa

ATTLE raisers are urged by the Alberta department of agriculture to treat their animals for warbles this spring. Examine the backs of cattle , now for lumps and start treatment when the first grubs are ready to emerge. Two more treatments should follow at about 30-day intervals.

Your district agriculturist will advise you as to the best insecticide to use and how it should be applied.

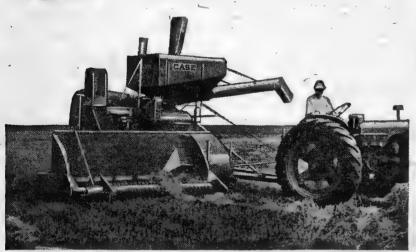
# F-PROPELLED COMBINE ... WITH

Hydraulic Speed Control gives a wide range of traction speed in each of three forward gears—like "feeding gas" to an automobile. Header control is hydraulic, too, operated by handy little lever on steering column. Both help get big capacity in good going, better work in difficult conditions.

Eye-Level Grain Bin. Easy for driver to see when it's full, when it's empty. End of spout is in plain sight, too. Fast unloading auger empties full 45 bushels in about a minute. Hinged spout and auger section swing back quickly beside rear of combine for transport or storage.

Quick-detachable header comes off for easy access to cylinder, or for transport by truck. Free-wheeling feature facilitates fast towing of combine on highway. Choice of three header sizes—10, 12 or 15-foot cut. Auger with receding fingers is available for long, viny or tough, tangled crops.

Simplified concave setting. Single lever sets both front and rear of concave; clearance indicator shows spacing. Choice of new 9-bar, 90-tooth cylinder or rubbar cylinder with reversible, renewable bars. Case Model "120" Self-Propelled Combine does splendid work in every threshable crop from beans to grass seed.

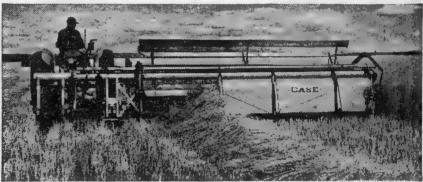


Champion of the 6-foot combines \* Many prairie farmers save time and money with the 6-foot Case Model "A" Combine. It does a beautiful job in heavy going, whether in tough grain, fine flax, or fluffy grass seeds; gives you extra bushels of clean seed. Owners call it "the combine built like a thresher."





Big New Pull-Type • Model "110" is built like the selfpropelled "120"; 9 or 12-foot header. Choice of same spike-tooth or rub-bar cylinders that thresh vigorously, yet work gently to coddle the seed. Like all Case Combines, the "110" is outstanding for getting maximum yields of clean grain and seed, for working fast, and fog keeping your fuel, labor, and maintenance costs low.



Windrows That Fight the Weather Case-built windrows lie on top of slightly bent stubble, cannot easily sift down, often come through a winter of snow in good shape. Be sure to see your Case dealer for a 9, 12, or 15-foot Case Windrower. FOR MORE ABOUT THE NEW THINGS

Mark here or write down machines that interest you. Mail to J. I. Case Co., Dept, FR-54, Cal-gary, Edmonton, Regina, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, London, Montreal, or Toronto. □ "120" Self-Propelled Combine
□ "110" Big New Pull-Type Combine
□ 6-foot Model "A" Combine
□ Windrowers

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#### RHEUMATIC PAIN May Keep YOU From Working!

May Keep YOU From Working!

"This winter I had to quit work because of rheumatic pain," writes Mr. T. Glofcheskie, Wilno, Ont. "I became fearful of being laid up as on a previous-occasion with rheumatic pain. My pain became increasingly severe and spread from hip to ankle. Out of bed, the leg felt cold as though in cold water, so I stayed in bed. A friend persuaded me to take T-R-C's and I'm glad I did. In a short while I was relieved of my pain and was soon on the job again."

Don't suffer from Rheumatic or Arthritic pain. Take Templeton's T-R-C's—Canada's LARGEST-SELLING proprietary medicine to bring quick relief from such pain. Only 65c, \$1.35 at druggists. J-874

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Cheer up! You may get new strength, energy and pep so quick you'll be astonished. Try Ostrex Tonic Tablets today. They invigorate, stimulate, energize. Revitalize every part of the rundown, iron-poor body; blood, organs, muscles, nerves. For men, women of all ages; especially beneficial at 40, 50, 60. You work better, play better; feel younger too. New "getacquainted" size only 60¢. At all druggists.

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Famous formula of 6 non-blistering counter-irritants does wonders for painful swellings and stiffness that cause layups. 54 years of success. Savoss is no simple rub-down or leg brace. Concentrated formula checks inflammation and deep-seated troubles by speeding fresh blood to the skin and to tissues deep down below the skin. Quickly relieves tendon, ligament and muscle soreness in leg, shoulder, hip and stifle. Savoss is guaranteed to relieve any disabling trouble external an help, or money refunded. \$3.50 at mail postpaid.

FREEI Send for 72-pg. book: "Guide to Lameness & Unsoundness." SAVOSS, c/o Better Proprietarkes, 579 Richmond St., W., Toronto 2B.

#### What does your handwriting reveal?

Are you a natural born salesman or would you make a better mechanic? Have you got hidden talent for art, cookery or steno-graphy? Would you be interested in getting the verdict of an expert on the character your handwriting reveals?

The Farm and Ranch has arranged with Mr. David Meyer, the author of this new and regular feature of the Farm and Ranch, to analyze the handwriting of its readers. Here are the rules:

Write at least 12 lines with pen and ink on good paper. Do NOT — repeat — NOT use a ball-point pen or pencil. Send it together with 25 cents in coin: —

DAVID MEYER.

71/2 Jane St., New York City, New York, U.S.A.

Do not send stamps and always enclose a self-addressed envelope. 

#### The superiority complex and large writing

By DAVID MEYER

people, the state of mind that makes them feel inadequate in the face of life's challenges. This feeling has nothing to do with the victim's actual abilities which may be of a high order. The feeling of inferiority too often acts as the inner traitor hampering and balking its victim at every step.

Now, its counterpart, the feeling of superiority, acts as a shot in the arm, pepping up its possessor and propelling him into life's whirl without doubts and self-questionings. Rightly or wrongly, he feels equal to any man and any situation. He may over-reach himself and, in the words of the old adage, rush in where a wiser man would fear to tread. He may possess little in-trinsic ability. But he is likely to come out ahead in the race for success and wordly goods.

As expressed in handwriting, the feeling of superiority manifests itself in size. The writing is large, often combined with bold strokes, especially in the t-bars and terminals. The capi-tals are also large, often out of proportion to the size of the small letters.

Curiously enough, women are more likely to write a large hand than men. As a rule, a man's writing is either of medium size or tends to be smaller. Psychologists explain the tendency in women to write large, indicating their feeling of superiority, as due to their biological make-up, that is, their sense of superiority derives from their being the bearers of the human race.

The large writers are found in the advertising and prometion fields, salesmanship, politics, the theatre and other professions where a flamboyant ego is required.

These writers love to throw their weight around. They cannot live without attention and applause. They often love to boast and tell tall stories. They are likely to be free with their promises without bothering to consider whether or not they lift and won \$3. She can fulfill them. They are not burg, Alta.

IN our last article we discussed likely to remain at the domestic the feeling of inferiority in hearth for any length of time without getting restless and irritable and "raring to go".

Considering that women write a large hand, it is not surprising to find them invading more and more areas of activity formerly monopolized by men, such as advertising and promotion, publicity, merchandising, TV and radio production, the theatre in all its phases, politics, etc. This tendency is obvious in metropolitan centers such as New York City.

Sample No. 1 shows an aggressive salesman. Note that the writing is marked by high speed and an upward trend in the line. The writer works fast, has a glib line of talk, is nimble and agile. He is an enthusiast, and his optimism is catching. He has a lot of drive that makes hurdling obstacles easy for him: He thrives on action. He is high-powered, tense and finds it hard to relax. Even when he

#### Hitch-hiker



Mrs. Andrew Heidt sent us this picture of Johnny giving his pup a lift and won \$3. She lives at War-

takes it easy, he must be doing something, such as play golf or handball or dance.

#### ease

Sample No. 2 shows aggressiveness of a different order. Note that the writing is broad and of moderate speed. The writer is quietly assertive, his manner is modest, he is never hurried. And he is always selfpossessed. He impresses people by his genuine sympathetic attitude, is easily approachable, rarely loses his temper. He goes after his objective persistently, without noise or heat, crosses his bridges when he gets to them. He knows how to relax. is a good husband and father and a respected member of his community.

lensen

Sample No. 3 betrays a "character". Note the flying, heavy t-bar, the heavy pressure, the terminal in the form of a hand closing over an object.

This writer deserves the description "aggressive" as it is differentiated from the term "assertive". It is not enough for him to declare himself, he must shout his demands. He is not content unless he browbeats everyone around him. He is bossy, irritable and feels persecuted unless he has his arbitrary

The terminal betrays an insatiable greed. It is not enough for him to make a comfortable living, he must grab everything in sight. He thinks, dreams and lives on "deals". If a day goes by without his putting over a deal, he feels it a day lost. And a deal to him means putting something over on somebody.

He is difficult to get along with in the office and just as difficult at home. He is a paroxysmal character, the type you read about suddenly dropping dead of heart attack in his office Wall Street or Seventh Avenue or Broadway.

10m

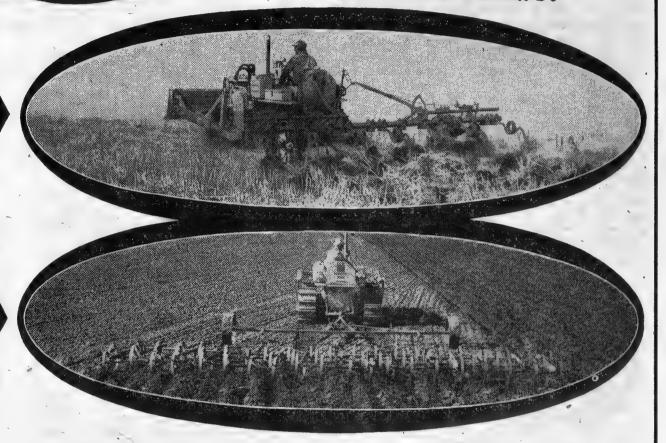
Sample No. 4 betrays a paradoxical person. Note the rather light pressure, flying t-bar, large size, abrupt terminal. This writer always puzzles his intimates. He is bossy and aggressive in his family circle, with his wife, with his friends. But rather futile and inept in the world at large, in the world of affairs. His imagination runs away with him, and he cannot see the trees for the forest. His imagination exaggerates every obstacle so that he literally frightens himself to death. He is vain and has too high an estimate of himself so that real opportunities within his reach appear too meager and paltry to bother about. He is ever reach-ing out for the stars, but his reach is too short, and he is too conceited to be content with what he can encompass.

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...and cover more ground in fewer hours ...for fewer fuel dollars!

with a dollar-andcents difference! Here a "Caterpillar" Diesel D2 Tractor cultivates acres of stubble per hour for the Franciscan Fathers at Mt. Francis Retreat, Cochrane, Alberta.

Traction to keep work on schedule! Pulling 24 feet of spring-tooth harrow in fourth gear, this "Caterpillar" Diesel D4 Tractor covers 15 to 18 acres per hour.



Put yourself in the place of either of these men: on the deep-cushioned seat of a "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractor.

You'll be in a position to boost earning power, cut man hours and fuel dollars, and eat up the acres without slippage however tough the going.

Because a "Caterpillar" means easy-rolling, all-weather traction power at the drawbar ... plus visible savings in the engine.

You'll approve the reduced soil packing, the manpower-multiplying work capacity of your "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractor. You'll like the easy way it beats wet soil emergencies, slashes operational and maintenance expenses!

There's a "Caterpillar"-built Diesel Tractor for every farm power need. Ask your "Caterpillar" Distributor to show you the 35 h.p. D2... the 43 h.p. D4... the power-packed 66 h.p. D6... the 90 h.p. D7, and the mighty 150 h.p. D8. All are built to "Caterpillar's" uncompromising standards — all are built to do a better job for you.

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Please send me further information D8 "Caterpillar" Diesel Tra		D6
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One night I was getting the eggs and it was dusk, so I did not see that there was a skunk in the box that the eggs were in, but then I smelled him and got out very quick. When I told Dad he got the gun and shot it. We couldn't get in the henhouse the next day because of the smell.

Lloyd J. Johnston. R.R. 2, Langbank, Sask.

One morning as I was throwing out feed for the cattle, I heard a lot of magpies in the willows, so I went over to see what was the matter. When I came there the magpies flew over to another clump of willows but I couldn't see anything for them to make all that fuss about. So I looked around and found that one of the magpies had fallen into the snow head first.

Joseph Dmyterk. Vermilion, Alberta.

One day while exploring old hollow trees, I came across a nest of baby squirrels. I took one home with me. It was still young and its eyes were closed. thought it would die, so I thought the mother cat might care for it, because the cat just had kittens a few days before; and the mother cat did care for the little squirrel. When the squirrel was full grown, it used



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Don't worry about trash or mud if you use a Towner "A" Plow. Towner-engineered high frame design, plus overhead scrapers, virtually eliminates costly clogging and plugging, even in wet, sticky soils. This means you can plow earlier after the rains, and at a higher tractor speed, without fear of stoppage. And with front and rear gangs working you do twice the plowing job.

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to run up the walls so fast that I couldn't find our cats. Then the cat would crouch low while I looked around and saw all four the squirrel went past. After a while the squirrel ran away, leaving many happy memories behind

Irene Huzel. East Braintree, Man.

One evening when we were inside the house we heard the hens cackling and the roosters crowing so we went out to see what was wrong. Just as I came out I saw the coyote come out of the barn with a rooster caught by the tail. We were all shouting so hard the coyote let the rooster go. We looked at the rooster and it had only lost a couple of feathers and a little piece of its tail. We put some medicine on it and then it was better.

John Driedger. Donskin, B.C.

Last spring a lost bunny wandered into our pig pasture. The pigs adopted the waif and made it welcome. It ate with them; it slept with them. Today, though all its original friends are gone the rabbit still remains in the pig-yard, hopping hither and you with a decidedly "superior" air.

W. M. Grasuck. Myrnam, Alberta.

One day my Daddy and I were working in our battery shed and a little mouse came over by the stove for a warm, so I got some bread crumbs and fed him and he was so happy and contented he didn't want to go away. It was the nicest sight I ever saw.

Alphonso Donnias. Manor, Sask.

In our yard one day I saw a Whiskey Jack that kept flapping its wing. I watched to see why it did this, and saw that it only had one foot. This Whiskey Jack has been back lots of time. Lois Armour.

Fern Creek, Alberta.

As I looked out the window the other day, saw a bunch of chickens lined up by the ash pile, which is a distance from the chicken coop. Then all of a sudden they all started to run toward the chicken coop and then back to the ash pile. They did this quite a few times, each time being a fewer number. thought to myself it looks as if

Elizabeth Wall. Box 933, Swift Current, Sask.

One morning when I got up and went out to do the chores

of them lying on our pig. They were all lying in a row. I guess they got cold and went to sleep there. They were keeping the pig warm, and the pig was keeping them warm.

Barry L. Tarr.

Craven, Sask.

There is a hill in our field and on the top of the hill the wheat grows in the form of a cross. The stem of the cross is about 20 feet long and 2 feet wide. The cross base is about 15 feet long and the same width as the long part. The wheat in the cross grows about a foot taller and darker green than all the rest. No one has been able to tell us the reason why the wheat grows like this.

Ian Silver, (13) Huxley, Alta.

One bright summer afternoon my uncle went out to the pasture, about 3 miles from home to get the cows. On his way he saw something moving around in a tree. He looked up and saw a little baby bear cub. He reached up and pulled the cub down. He didn't want to leave it go so he decided to take it home. He took off his overalls and tied up the pant leg good and tight, then he shoved the bear in so he couldn't get out. He then started on his way home with the baby cub. When he arrived home, Grandpa asked him what was in his overalls, he said "It's my pet cub." My uncle fixed a little pen up and put the bear in

Evelyn Koerner. Wandering River, Alberta.

One day during the cold weather in January I saw a crow. After that we saw him regularly. A few days ago we heard him screeching as for his life and I saw a hawk was after him.

The crow finally darted in the barn and he stayed in there for quite a while. When he did come out he sat on top of the barn keeping watch in all directions.

Allen Kerns.

Wimborne, Alta.

One sunny afternoon I took my little colt out of the barn to show it to my mother. It was about 2 months old then, and as they were racing with the last I got in front of the house the ones staying out each time.

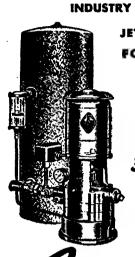
about 2 months old then, and as I got in front of the house the colt got scared of a little wagon colt got scared of a little wagon my little brother was pulling. The colt started for the barn. I fell down and was dragged quite a ways but I didn't let go because I was afraid it would it was very cold. I went up to get away with the other horses the barn, and when I got there in the pasture. It took me

through a barbed wire fence and right to the barn door. When I got up on my feet again all the buttons on my jacket were gone. I didn't get hurt at all.

Raymond Lanoie.

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## Grass silage in the feedlot

By F. WHITING

MUCH has been written and said in recent years about the value of grass or hay crop silage. Some farmers feel that the preservation of the hay crop as silage has made a tremendous saving in the costs of live stock production. Others, who have of spoilage or poor quality silage, and because of the amount of labor involved, are less euthusiastic about its value.

To determine the feeding value of a hay crop (grass-legume mixture) preserved as silage or as hay, an experiment was conducted at the Experimental Station, Lethbridge, during the past winter, using feeder lambs. One group of 30 lambs was fed a ration of hay and a grain mixture (75 per cent oats and 25 per cent wheat).

and 25 per cent wheat).

Another group of 30 lambs was fed a ration of silage (harvested from the same field as the hay) and the grain mixture. A third group of 30 lambs was fed approximately equal quantities of hay and silage (on a dry matter basis) and the grain consider the relative trients during has storing of the creative average, the losses in putting up hay ting up silage. He consider the relative trients during has storing of the creative tri

mixture. Hay or silage was fed free-choice, and the grain mixture was limited to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pounds per lamb daily. The silage was of good quality and the hay was of medium-to-good quality, having received a light shower of rain while lying in the field before baling.

In arriving at the feed costs, hay was valued at \$16 per ton, silage at \$5.75 per ton, and grain at \$35 per ton.

It is evident from this one experiment that feeding hay to fattening lambs gave faster and more economical gains than feeding silage. However, the farmer or feeder, before deciding on whether to put his hay crop up as silage or hay, must consider the relative loss of nutrients during harvesting and storing of the crop. On the average, the losses are greater in putting up hay than in putting up silage. He must also consider the relative costs of equipment and labor in putting up hay and silage.

The following table summarizes the results:

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
			Hay and
	Hay	Silage	Silage
Av. initial wt. lambs	65	65	65
Av. final wt. lambs	103	98	101
No. days on feed	107	117	112
Av. daily gain	0.36	0.28	0.28
Feed per 100 pounds gain			
Hay (9% moisture)	442	<b>-</b>	311
Silage (67% moisture)		1340	527
Grain	420	527	469
Feed cost per 100 pounds gain *	10.89	13.07	12.22

## Give those tomato plants a chance

By G. A. KEMP, Lethbridge Experimental Farm

THOSE who grow tomatoes, whether for the home garden or for field production, should be aware of the many pitfalls they can encounter, so that their plants will not suffer too many early setbacks. Proper handling during the early stage of a tomato plant usually results in earlier ripened fruits and heavier yields.

To get the tomato plant off to a good start, it is important that it receive the best care right from the beginning. Seeding is usually done in late March or early April. Any type of container for the soil can be used as long as the seedbed consists of a good compost sand mixture, usually made up of two parts of rich compost and one part of sand. The seed is covered lightly with sand and watered from below.

The seed container should then be placed in a warm location and covered with a piece of glass and paper to provide optimum conditions for germination. Keeping the soil moist is important. As soon as the seed-lings emerge, the glass and paper can be removed. The young seedlings should be allowed to develop until they are large enough for easy transference to a larger container in which the plants will be given more room for development.

When the young plants commence to produce their third or fourth set of true leaves, the temperature of the air should be lowered gradually, if at all possible, to a range of 60 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit. At the same time, the young plants should be provided with plenty of light. Under the conditions described above, a sturdy, stocky plant with well-colored foliage may be expected. Plants developed as indicated will be better able to withstand the shock of transplanting to the field. If high temperatures are allowed to persist, the plants will become long, spindly, and succulent, making them unfit for field planting.

YOU'VE probably suspected these things in your own beef herd, but there's proof from livestock research folks in Montana:

1. The bigger calves at birth will likely wean out the heaviest. 2.

The "easy keeping" cow

#### These things mean heavier beef calves

that winters well will probably then drop sharply. wean heavier calves.

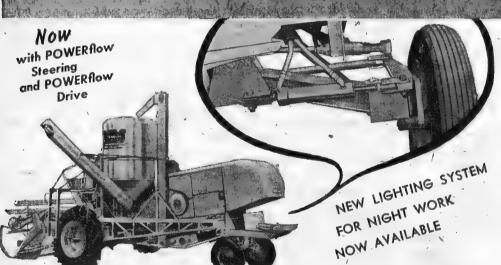
3. Calf weaning weight will go up from first-calf heifers until about six years, taper off slightly until the cows are ten,

4. Rain during pasture season makes a lot of difference in weaning weights. City, where the At Miles State and Federal Folks did their check-

ing, an inch of rain below normal knocked off an average of 17 pounds weight. In really dry years, the drop was even bigger.

These conclusions came as a by-product of breeding research at the Montana Station. goal is to breed cattle that gain faster on less feed.







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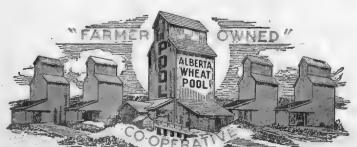
# Jhe Vision Remains

THE ALBERTA Wheat Pool has, over the years, proven that a substantial farmer-owned co-operative organization can be operated efficiently and render exceptional service to the membership.

But success in operational activities is not enough. The idealism of the movement must never be lost sight of.

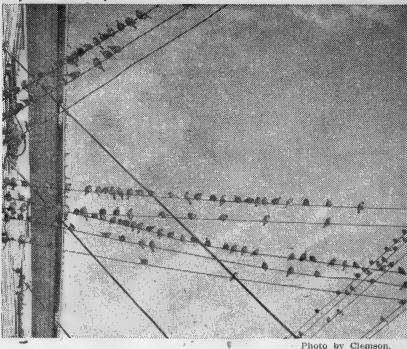
The co-operative movement touches no man's fortune, seeks no plunder; enters into no secret association; it contemplates no violence; it subverts no order, envies no dignity; it accepts no gratuity ... nor asks any special favor; it keeps no terms with the idle, and it will break no faith with the industrious.

It is neither mendicant, servile, nor offensive; it has its hands in no man's pocket and does not mean that any other hands shall remain long or comfortable in its own. It means self-help, self-defence, and such share of the common competence as labor shall earn or thought can win.



"IT'S ALBERTA POOL ELEVATORS FOR ALBERTA FARMERS"

Sky full of sparrows



#### How the towns were named

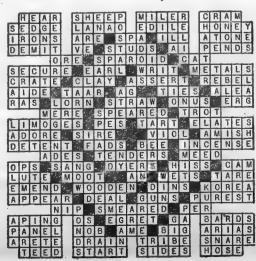
IKE the railroadmen, the first postmasters often had the privilege of naming their ham-lets or post offices. H. E. An-derson, the first postmaster of Aden, east of Coutts, has seen Aden, east of Coutts, has seen the world as a sailor, and, when he settled on the plains of southern Alberta, named his new anchorage after the Arabian seaport. Marwayne, north of Kitscoty, is a compound of the name of the first postmaster, W. C. Marfleet, and his Lincolnshire home, Waynflete. When the first post office was opened the first post office was opened at Dina, south of Lloydminster, tribute was paid to the only girl living in the district, Miss Dina Sand

The flood of settlers which came to Alberta in the early 1900's named their settlements with the same passionate optimism that had brought them across Canada to a frontier land. Cornucopia, a post office south of Stettler and Good Hope in the Fort Saskatchewan district are only two of the names the settlers chose. Success was the name given to an area near Sullivan Lake by settlers who returned to the United States not long after coining the name.

Combination Names Settlers were fond also of combining the syllables of their new and old homes in names. The village of Altario, east of Consort, is a combination of Alberta and Ontario; Alberta and Saskatchewan were combined in the name of Bertawan, a municipal district adjoining Sas-katchewan; and Canmer, a municipal district south of Grassy Lake, a combination of Canada and America.

Anzac, a railway station south of McMurray, is named after the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps of the First Great War, Balzac, north of Calgary, after the French novelst, Honore Balzac, and Botha, east of Stettler, after the Boer general of the South African War. Nolan, a post office south of Youngstown, celebrates the fame of the Calgary lawyer, P. J. Nolan. Clover Bar, east of Edmonton, is named after T. H. Clover, a California miner, who washed gold on a bar in the North Saskatchewan

#### Solution to last month's puzzle



River in the early sixties. These illustrate the diverse origins of Alberta place-names.

Coronach Mountain in Jasper National Park is descriptive of the howling coyotes which frequent its environs, sounding not unlike a funeral dirge, or "cor-onach" in Gaelic. Two lakes or dedicated to magicians—Merlin Lake in Banff National Park, so named for it is at the foot of a mountain which has a fancied resemblance to Merlin's castle, and Wizard Lake, south of Edmonton which, with its neighboring Conjuring Creek, complete the list of magical refer-

Irish Councillor Had His Way The lone Irishman on the municipal council named the Dublin Municipal District, north-west of Sullivan Lake, while a post office in the Didsbury district is Garfield, after the one-time U.S. president, James A. Garfield. The Post Office Department named a post office in the same general area Harmattan, after the hot, dry wind which blows on the Atlantic coast of Africa.

Daily newspapers provided inspiration for at least two placenames. Mirror, east of Lacombe, was named after The Daily Mirror of London, England, while Bingville, a post office south of Bassano, was lifted directly from the 1914 comics section of The Spokane Review.

Kahwin, a post office in the Smoky Lake area, recalls the violent opposition of non-Slavic residents to the suggested Rus-gian name of Ostaskik, Kahwin sian name of Ostaskik; Kahwin is Sioux for "no". Niton, a village west of Chip Lake, suggests that the station agent or postmaster was frequently absent for it is "not in" reversed.

European and Slavic names are common as well. Bruderheim, north-east of Fort Sas-katchewan, is German for "brethren's home", and was named by a colony of the Moravian Church who emigrated to Alberta from Russia. The Ukrainian settlement of Myrnam, east of Two Hills, means "peace east of Two fills, means "peace to us," in Russian, while Vesela, a nearby post office, is Russian for cheerful. Liberty, a district south-west of Edmonton, was chosen to express the joy Euro-pean settlers felt at living a free life. free life.

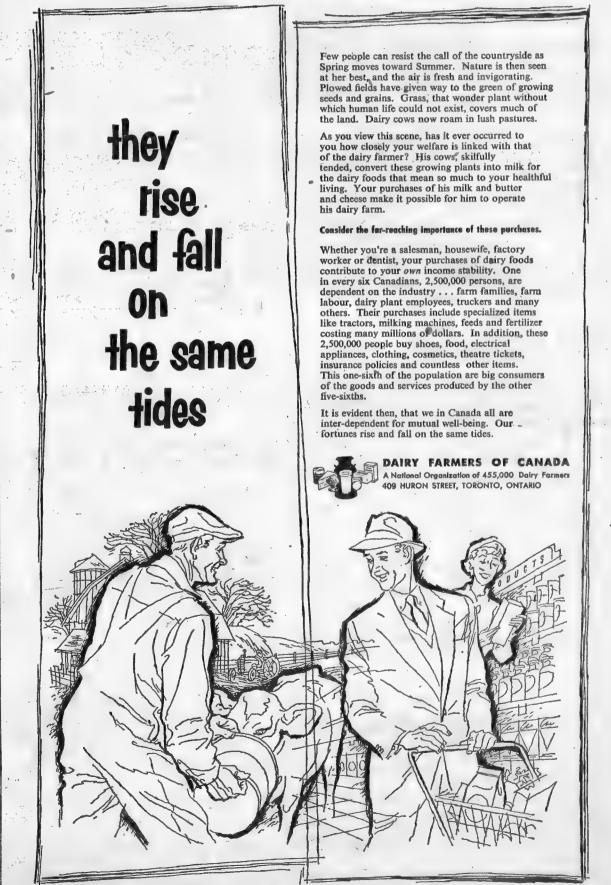
Cardston commemorates Charles Ora Card, a son-in-law of the Mormon leader, Brigham Young, who guided a group of Mormon families to Alberta, while Taber is the first two syllables of tabernacle used as a name in deference to the Mormon settlers.

Farm land values in the United States decreased 6 per cent between November, 1952, and November, 1953, a decline of 3 per cent taking place in the last three months of that period. With net farm income on the downtrend a further reduction in farm land values is expected.



## MACDONALD'S MACDONALD'S Fine Cut

Makes a better cigarette



May brings new color, song and scent to the prairie. Probably nothing in the universe gives greater joy than color. All nature's colors blend and harmonize lending comfort and contentment to the heart. Showers and sunshine have transformed the drab countryside of dead, brown winter grass and skeleton trees to rare beauty. The sky becomes a softer, clearer blue, and if you were a reader of Tennyson forty or fifty years ago, you will remember these lines, full of music and memory:

## Country Diary

"In the spring a fuller crimson comes upon the robin's breast,

In the spring the wanton lapwing gets himself another crest;

In the spring a livelier Iris changes on the burnished dove,

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love."

Birds are enchanters in May all who have stood and

watched and listened know this. The sparrows and their kin living in the poplars quarrel in a deluge of Billingsgate, but yet they know no malice or hatred and even their abuse and scoldings are entertaining. The chickadee has only his three notes but he makes the most of them by repetition. The blackbird in sweet silver melody at dawn and eve, the meadow-lark striges his delicious notes with the precision of a little feathered music-box, and al-

ways there is a gull or crow coming or going with hoarse cries of joy in a lovely May morning. But when you approach a bird-friend he is very still and quiet. Close and confidential acquaintance is only accomplished slowly and deliberately with the soundless tread of Redskin moccasined feet.

Very foremost among birds returning to the homeland is the robin. Like some others he demands the same nest year after year, and woe betide the intruder who tries to settle in the ancestral home chosen by Mr. R. for his grandchildren. For my part I don't think there is any doubt that sentiment and affection beats in the heart inside a little feathered breast to make it remember the identical home built in the spring, even after a sojourn of many months many miles away. But there are those who argue that birds are driven blindly on a series of actions by an urge, the meaning of which they have no comprehension, and this could start quite a controversy.

In May the air is honey-sweet with the scent of unfolding poplar-buds and the resinous flavor of the balm-of-Gileads; and the fragrance of new grass and fresh-turned earth is all around. Health-giving scents all of them, provided by Nature to refresh weary bodies weakened by the long wrack of winter.



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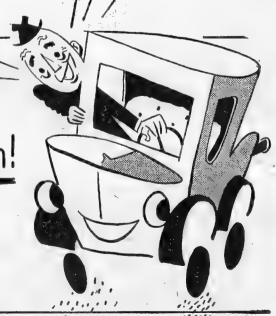
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#### Aunt Sal Suggests . . .

who can hie away to the warm south. But I doubt that they farm-wife author. You can get appreciate the advent of Spring your copy by sending one dollar as much as those of us who to Mrs. Thompson, Box 242, saw winter really doing her Lethbridge, Alberta. stuff. Spring seemed so re- I am ever surprised at the luctant to come out of hiding number of cute tricks and ideas this year . . . at least in many parts of the prairies. As I write to you today, April has come, but out-of-season snow flurries are racing by my windows.

Ever since Christmas, many of your letters have longingly referred to your gardens and one could easily guess that many of you were looking ahead to the days when you could get outside and dig in the èarth again. It has been about ten years since I did any garof puttering around a few 4 tblsys, double-acting baking flowers. Just as one has to powder (that would be 6 of have a child of one's own before appreciate the attraction of a ening (lacking mixer use your garden plot until one has had a fingers). This (she tells us) real "go" at it oneself. I had will keep several months in cool to experience that fact to find dark place. out its truity.

of a garden plot and poetry, but here is a little verse that struck me as so sweet yet true.

#### My Garden

People ask me why I struggle To make my garden grow, Why I carry water to it, Why-I hoe and hoe and hoe.

So I tell them quite sincerely, How I love the virgin sod, And when working in my garden, I feel so close to God.

That little poem is taken cups milk, ½ cup cream. from a small collection of Reat eggs lightly with verses and home-style philosophy that went into a book called "Stairway to the Stars". It is written by Clara Cline Thompson. Likely you've seen her name in farm papers through-out the years for Mrs. Thompsonhas written fine verse and prose. But she isn't only a writer, she is a farm woman too. Because you readers tell me you consider me your friend, then I feel like sharing all good

DURING the cold winter days things with you and that is why I almost envy those friends I'm telling you about this cozy I'm telling you about this cozy wee book from the pen of a

> that you friends like to share with me. I truly believe I could fill up this whole magazine with excerpts from your letters to me. But I have to content my-

> self with giving you samples.
>
> Mrs. F. F. from Winnipeg likes to make lots of cake mix in readiness for busy days. Here is the way she makes her largelot mixes.

#### Cake Mix

8 cups sifted cake flour, 5 dening to speak of ... just a bit cups sugar, 4 teaspoonfuls salt, have a child of one's own before single acting), 2 cups shorten-one can really get very interesting. Mix and sift the dry in-ed in children, so one can never gredients well. Blend in short-

And now Mrs. F. F. wants to Perhaps you think there is no know how she'd prepare a dark connection between the plant-cake mix. Well why not just ing and weeding and harvesting add 2½ cups cocoa to the above mixture. Most cocoa cakes call for half as much cocoa as sugar.

Another fine recipe I received last month from a reader (and I have tried this one and liked it immensely) was for a pumpkin pie . . . not just any old pumpkin pie but a special one this lady

#### My Favorite Pumpkin Pie (It only has one spice-ginger.)

11/2 cups canned pumpkin, 2/3 cup brown sugar, ½ tsp. ginger,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. salt, 2 eggs,  $1\frac{1}{2}$ 

Beat eggs lightly with fork. Add other ingredients and pour and other ingredients and pour into unbaked pie shell (brush it lightly first with egg white). Bake in hot oven, 450° F. until it tests "done" by the knife insertion test. This recipe offers proof to the statement that when we use spice we should just use enough to enhance the just use enough to enhance the natural taste of the food, not bury it.

Aunt Sal.

#### The Dishpan Philosopher

WELL time rolls on and now it's May - the "Merrie month" folks used to say. May's just another month to us unmarked by any special fuss. It's true the world seems fresh and new, the winds are balmy, skies are blue, springtime's first round of work is done and crops are greening in the sun. But, even so, the merry tone, to which in May folks once were prone, seems lost in thoughts we can't restrain of markets, prices, loss and gain. And these days by the world's unrest we're overshadowed and oppressed, the while the daily news brings fear to every month of every year.

The May-pole and the village green that graced the simple old-world scene are gone. And we, now rich and proud, with ample living well endowed, don't often lay dull care away to bring some merriment to May.



#### LEMON 4-DECKER CAKE-

21/4 cups sifted pastry flour or 2 cups sifted all-purpose

3 tsps. Magic Baking Powder 1/2 tsp. sait

10 tbsps. butter or margarine 1 cup fine granulated sugar 2 eggs

3/4 cup milk 1 tsp. vanilla

Grease two 8-inch round layer-cake pans and line bottoms with greased paper. Pre-heat oven to 375° (moderately hot). Sift flour, Magic Bakine; Powder and salt together three times. Cream butter or margarine; gradually blend in sugar; add unbeaten eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Measure milk and add a time, alternating weth anter cach addition. Make about a quarter at a time, alternating with three additions of milk and combining lightly after each addition. Turn into prepared pans. Bake in preheated oven about 25 minutes. Split layers of cold cake and put all together with lemon cake filling; cover with 7-minute frosting flavored with vanilla and lemon extract; decorate with well-drained maraschino cherries.

thinking before entering any question in this column that deals with buying or selling . . . for after such a question appears in print there is apt to be quite an avalanche of similar questions. I can't go into the details as to why I can use one question but not another. In the March issue I mentioned that a certain lady wanted to buy an auto knitter. Now I handled this because they are not being advertised in the farm publications recently . . . I'll let you in on the secret that I've been asked to sell and buy everything from fur coats to sauerkraut. Honestly! This is not a "want ad." department, so I've had the unpleasant task of saying "No can do" to many of you. I hope you have taken no offence for certainly none was intended.

Thanks to all those who wrote

## **Your Grocer Recommends**





He knows ALPHA'S consistent, reliable quality is guarantee'd. For baking . . . . in hot drinks . . . for topping always buy Alpha.



#### DO a long stretch of heavy Let's Ask Aunt Sal...

until it is as thin as desired.

Q.: Have you got the recipe for potato cake? All I can replied to all of you who included a stamped envelope. That was the best I could do. For your information I'll tell you the asking price of the model sold was \$25.00. Most ing price of the model sold was \$25.00. Most of you mentioned a sum in this neighborhood.

Q.: Where could I obtain a correspondence course on candy making? — (Mrs. M. M., Edmonton).

A.: It took me nearly three months to round up this address, but here it is at last. National Institute of Confectionery Reg'd, P.O. Box 152, Delorimier, Montreal 34, Quebec.

Q: Please give me directions for re-silvering mirrors? — (Mrs. B. M., Binscarth, Man.)
A.: Again I contacted a pro-

fessional glass maker and he declares there is no home method that can do this job successfully. Some woman sent me in some home recipe but I could not get it to work out.

Q.: At our local fair there are entries for petit point and needle point. I would like to enter in these but do not know how one frames the pictures.-

(Mrs. J. K., Manning, Alta.)
A.: I consulted a professional picture framer and he states that the best way is to place them in a box frame and this keeps the gas away from the cloth, but he also assured me that some not wishing to go to this expense just have them framed with ordinary frames.

Q.: Has any reader the chart or pattern for a knitted air force crest? — (Mrs. Lilian A. Palsen, Box 280, Spirit River, Alta.)

A.: Any knitter who is interested in above question write to her direct, please . . . not to

Q.: Where can I get information about value of old coins? (Repeat.)

A.: (Sent in by Mrs. T. H., Maple Creek, Sask.) Canadian Numismatic Association, 12 Dalhousie St., Ottawa, Ont. Dalhousie St., Ottawa, Ont. (When writing them enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.)

Q.: Where can I get a book a "Planting By the Moon"? — (Mrs. E. R., Arran, Sask.)

A.: I've phoned book stores all over but could get no results on this. Isn't there generally a section in the almanacs on this? You might write Ryerson Press, Toronto, Ontario, and see if they know of any book printed on the subject.

Q.: How do I make old-fashioned soft soap? (Repeat.)

Soft Soap

A.: (Sent in by Mrs. A. D., Endakso, B.C.) To one can of lye add 3 gallons of cold soft water. Boil until lye is dissolved. Then add 3 pounds of clean grease and boil slowly (watching carefully). Boil about 20 minutes. To test dip out ½ cup and mix with ½ cup

I gladly repeat.

#### Caramel Potato Cake

½cup butter, 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs, ½ cup milk, ½ cup hot riced potatoes, 1 cup flour, 2 tsps. baking powder, ½ tsp. each chopped numeats.

Method: Cream butter and sugar. Add well-beaten eggs, milk and potatoes. Add sifted dry ingredients and floured nuts. Bake in greased, floured pan in moderate oven 55 minutes. (From ye olde Fannie Farmer book.)

Q.: Would you please tell me how you canned your green peppers Those I canned, that were processed one hour, were so soft I could not cut them in pieces. — (Mrs. J. H. D., Mantarice, Sask.)

A.: I did mine in pressure cooker. Wash, remove seed pod. Boil 3 minutes then pack and process with 10-lb. pressure for 30 mniutes. In hot water bath, you're supposed to cook hours. (No water is needed. Possibly you added water . . . did you ?)

Q.: Have you a recipe for wheat coffee? — (Mrs. M. S., Moose Wallow, Sask.)
A.: (Sent in by Mrs. J. P.,

Coaldale, Alta.)

#### Wheat Coffee

Place wheat or rye in large pot and cover with milk or for this service.

buttermilk. Let boil slowly until tender. Drain and spread in pans and bake in oven stirring occasionally until dark in color and nearly dry. Then put in iron pot over heat and stir constantly till done. Grind and put in tins. (Mrs. P. adds this note: "I notice that my "Displaced Persons" neighbors do it this way. One may mix this with a little real coffee.)

Q.: How can we make pan-cake mix containing various kinds of flour? That one buys seems so expensive. — (Mrs. W.

M., Minnedosa, Man.) A.: I have never tried this myself, but it was given to me this way: Combine one cup each of the following, wheat flour, cornmeal, farina (cream of wheat), buckwheat, 2 teaspoonsfuls baking soda, 4 teaspoonsful cream of tartar, ½ cup sugar (if desired), 1 tsp. salt. Just before using work in a little butter and add milk to make right consistency to fry.

Q.: Have you addresses for Canadian catalogues of books that would prove beneficial to your readers? — (Mrs. J. B., Nakusk, B.C.)

A.: Ryerson Press, Toronto, will send lists on request and Bulletin of both federal and provincial governments print many books on all subjects. Lists will be sent on request.

NOTE: All readers are invited to send in their home-making problems to Aunt Sal, in care of the Farm and Ranch Review, Calgary, Alberta. If you wish a private reply enclose a stampself-addressed envelope. Kindly limit one question to each letter. There is no charge

#### Fats are needed in reducing diets

diet and should definitely not be excluded, reports one of North America's leading authorities on nutrition.

Dr. Margaret A. Ohlson, head of the Food and Nutrition Department of Michigan State College, East Lansing, told meeting of the Associated Milk Foundations in Toronto that adults who eat high quality protein foods such as milk, do not crave the rich foods which add extra calories. "We definitely don't rule fats out," explained Dr. Ohlson.

Dr. Ohlson said that an adult should drink at least eight ounces of milk daily, not so much for its calcium or riboflavin content but for its protein value. Older people, she said, who were beginning to have trouble with their teeth and who tend to cut down on their protein intake, should drink more milk.

Delegates to the Milk Foundation annual convention also heard Miss Lucille Bridges, Exwater. If it is stringy, it is ecutive Director of New Eng-done. Add clear water to soap land Dairy Council, describe

FATS can play a very important part in the reducing used in schools to illustrate the used in schools to illustrate the effect of diet. The demonstration consisted of placing a pair of white rats in a cage and leaving them with an upper grade or high school teacher for a six-week period. One rat receives no milk for the first three weeks and the children watch the growth progress of both

"They noted very quickly that the rat on a poor diet is irritable and nervous. When diets are switched they see the smaller rat picked up weight and lose the nervous characteristics,' Miss Bridges said.

The Association's plans for 1954 call for an increased distribution of educational material on good food habits, as well as a campaign to establish Milk Foundations in more centres in Canada. At present there are twenty-two milk foundations

across the country.

New President of the non-profit organization is N. R. Martin of St. Thomas, Ontario; Vice-President Murray Hamilton, Edmonton, Alta., and second Vice-President, I. V. Ormiston, Raglan, Ontario.

THE Bride's Cake is all-important, and usually one of the wedding pictures shows the young bride cutting it, with the beaming husband assisting in the happy task. Traditionally this is a white cake, baked a day or so before the ceremony and iced and decorated to make a lovely centerpiece.

In most families, wedding cake recipes are handed down from generation to generation and every year new ones appear in magazines for the benefit of those who want to try "something new". Not so with the Groom's cake — like the groom, this cake seems to be neglected.

But the Groom's cake is important, too. It is a rich, moist, dark fruit cake baked two or three weeks in advance, then cut to fit into boxes for the guests to take home. Sometimes, too, a small groom's cake is made, given to the groom to be kept in their new home until the first anniversary, when it is cut for the first time.

Giving due credit to the beautiful wedding cakes turned out by bakery and pastry shops, there's sentiment about these cakes being made in the home kitchen and they can be done at small cost in comparison. Here is a favorite and tested recipe for a Groom's Cake which cuts into clean even slices without crumbling because the fruit is made tender and moist before adding it to the batter. This is a professional baker's trick which is just as successful when tried in the home.

#### Groom's Cake

2½..lbs. (6¼ cups) raisins, cut in half ..½..lb. (1¼ cups) glazed cherries, sliced

1/2...lb. (11/4 cups) glazed pineapple, sliced

1/2 lb. (2 cups) pecans, coarsely chopped

½ lb. (2 cups) blanched almonds, chopped

34 lb. (2 cups) citron, thinly sliced cup unsulphured molasses

1/2 cup water

1/4 cup sifted enriched flour

1/2 sq. bitter chocolate, melted

1. cup butter

11/4 cups sugar

1/4 teaspoon soda

6 eggs, unbeaten

2 cups sifted enriched flour

1/2 teaspoon cloves

1½ teaspoons cinnamon

11/4 teaspoons nutmeg



## THE Bride's Cake is all-important, and usually one of the wedding pictures shows the young bride cutting it, with the groom's cake

By LOUISE PRICE BELL

1 teaspoon allspice

Prepare fruit, gradually add to molasses and water that has been heated to boiling point. Cook slowly, stirring constantly, until fruit has absorbed all the syrup (about 5 minutes). Pour fruit in a large, shallow pan or platter to completely cool, stirring occasionally. Mix fruit with the ½ cup flour just before adding to the batter.

Sift together the 2 cups flour and spices. Cream together chocolate, butter, sugar, and soda. Beat in 3 eggs. Stir in ½ cup flour mixture; beat in remaining 3 eggs. Add the remaining flour mixture alternately with the milk. Stir in tenderized fruit. Line the bottom of two 15 x 12 x 1-inch pans and grease well. Pour batter into pans. Bake 1 hour and 45 min-

utes in a pre-heated slow oven (300° F.) keeping a large shallow pan of hot water underneath cakes to prevent them baking too dry. Turn out on wire coolers. Remove brown paper. When cold, wrap cakes in a clean cloth saturated in fruit juice.

Before the wedding, cut cakes into  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{3}{4}$ -inch pieces. Wrap each in metal foil or cellophane; pack in individual wedding-cake favor boxes (or wrap in a good-quality bond paper) and tie with a white satin ribbon. Place the boxes on a large glass plate or silver tray and ask a member of the wedding party to see that each guest receives one. Yield: 88 pieces the above size.

The cost of the ingredients for this cake, average prices, is \$4.12.

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9'x26"	\$2.80	\$3.05
10' x26"	\$3.05	\$3.35
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#### The labor position

To the Editor:

I have read with interest the editorial in your March issue entitled 'A Saskatchewan Luxury High Cost of Joe Phelps." The first question which strikes me is why there should be such a keen desire on your part to keep the farmer and Labour groups apart. Surely a better understanding between these two overwhelmingly large groups of Canadian citizens should be helpful to Canada and to the people as a whole.

You refer to community of interest between the groups as an "illusion." It is certainly no illusion. Workers and farmers have a number of things in common, and particularly that they are both subject to exploitation by economic forces over which they have no control. If as you admit, the workers have improved their economic position by means of organization, would it not also be desirable for the farmers to become organized and co-operate with Labour? A

Furthermore, the common interest of both groups is a desire to obtain the best possible standard of living. They are both producers and consumers; each needs as a consumer what the other produces. It is not difficult to show that representations to the Federal Government supported by both groups would be much more effective than if each acted alone. The wider and more representative the joint co-operation can become, and the more fully its programme has been thought out, the better for all concerned. There is therefore no justification for your statement that the interests of farmers and workers "collide;" there is no basic opposition between them.

suggestion that Labour should take a wage-cut to remedy high freight rates or the price of agricultural implements is undoubtunsound from an economic standpoint. Is it going to help the farmer if the worker is forced to buy less of what the farmer produc-And is it not rather naive to imply, as you do, that prices are determined solely by wages? There are a great many factors involved in prices apart from wages. For example, one of Canada's largest automobile manufacturers paid out more in taxes last year than in wages.

It seems to me that improvement in the position of the farmers is more likely to be obtained through greater co-operation with Labour than by the negative approach to the problem, and the personal attacks on Mr. Joseph Phelps which make up a large part of your editori-

I hope I am right in assuming that you have the interests of the farmers at heart, although it is somewhat difficult to do so. You are obviously anti-union and anti-CCF. You are opposed to Mr. Phelps and to Farmer-Labour co-operation. What do you stand for? What guidance do you offer the farmers? Instead of giving the two large central Labour bodies

in Canada, representing nearly million workers, credit for their desire to help the farmers, you have nothing to say except to condemn them all, and call in question Mr. Phelps' efforts to improve the situation. Why not leave out the personalities and examine the problem objectively? Why not encourage objectively? Why not encourage the farmers to organize, and have enough confidence in them to believe that they can protect and promote their interests in co-operation with Labour, rather than assume that such co-operation will be detrimental to them?

Yours very truly A. R. Mosher, President, Canadian Congress of Labor, Ottawa.

#### Phelps isn't boss

To the Editor:

Re your March Editorial. To me it seems there are a lot of things you do not understand with regards the farmer and labour relations, and not being either, I don't see how you can.

Being a farmer I thought I might be able to give you my side of the picture and clarify certain impressions you seem to have formed.

You say Joe Phelps calls the plays for the Farmers' Union. Let me say that 50 per cent of the farmers of Saskatchewan are now in the Union and if anyone thinks they are going to let one man, Mr. Phelps or anyone else run them that man is in for one big surprise. We have an executive of 39 officials who have to be consulted and if these folks do not follow the wishes of the people then the Local Lodges make themselves heard in no uncertain terms. This is a grass roots organization and every member has his or her say providing they wish to do so.

So you see we the individual members do the play calling. Mr. Phelps does as we wish and if we are wrong and make a mistake most often our President gets the blame, especially by those who are uninformed.

Let us take the case of discount buying of the Union last year. every meeting that I attended where discount buying was discussed Mr. Phelps spoke against it but when over ruled he said "It's not what I think best but if the majority want it, then that's what it's going to be." Yet recently in an editorial of one of our weekly farm papers he got the sole blame for it. Later at the convention in December discount buying was thrown out by a vote of Delegates from the Local Lodges.

Let us look at the farmers' interest in labour.

First let me say that labour is the farmers' best market and if we cut wages in half that just about cuts our markets in half. I believe if labour was not organized today with all this unemployment there would be a drastic cutting of wages so that by now we would not wonder if a recession was coming or not, we would know. Here we must remember that the largest percentage of food produced is consumed at home

ter diet bei be

not exported as thought by some. Last year only 5 per cent of Canadian beef was exported. You question the ability of the farmers of Sask, to think for themselves because they elect Mr. Phelps as President. The reason for them doing so is that they know the truth, as it actually is and do not fall for what they read in the press.

You say the only reason the farmers feel the pinch is because wages are so high. I wonder just how much investigating on this you have done Mr. Editor or have you just done what you think the farmers in Sask. are doing? That is just blindly following somebody who you hope knows all the answers or do you possibly take orders?

How do wages in farm machinery affect the farmer? Let me give you some figures from the Select Special Committee on Farm Implements as adopted by the Sask. Legislature on April 4, 1952. Committee represented the two parties of the Legislature. Labour costs were, in the farm equipment industrry, one-third less in 1950 than in 1945. In 1945 wages constituted 42.4% of gross selling value at factory but fell to 28.9% in 1950. Net value produced by workers was also doubbled form 1945 to 1950.

Yet we find that the rapid rise in costs occurred after 1945.

Then why are implement costs so high? Well we find that one farm machine company realized a profit in 8 years of 170% after taxes. Another large company in the industry from 1946 to 1951 had returns of 480% after taxes and preferred dividends.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics states that in the farm equipment industry gross operating profits advanced 338.5% from 1945 to 1950.

Distribution costs, excluding freight absorbed \$25.00 out of every \$100.00 spent by the farmer for implements. Committee stated manufacturers have made very high profits and high implement prices are probably a direct outcome of this condition.

Let us take the sale of our farm produce. The farmer gets from onethird to a half for his poultry of what the consumer pays. Wages in the retail business are not so high that this spread is necessary when you just watch the actions of some of these retail and in between the producer and consumer organizations, such as more money spent on more modern equipment, neon signs advertising, etc. You may say this is necessary but we in the farming or producing end of it are always told we will have to economize, cut down on frills, labour etc. Weed out the inefficient on the farms. If this applies in production it should also apply in distribution.

In July and August of 1937 I received an average of thirteen cents per dozen for eggs, yet a dozen of eggs bought more groceries in most cases then than they do today. The only difference is that the cost of our main source of protein in the laying mashes has increased between 4 to 500% since 1937.

It's not a question of more money for our produce, but how much more will the money we get buy for us.

All in all your views expressed in your editorials do not seem in the best interest of the farmer on the average, yet the rest of the paper is one of the best for the west except too small and does not come out often

enough. Most of the material is really tops.

Yours truly,
J. R. Knelsen,
Secy. Moose Jaw Lodge S.F.U.
Director Sub. Dist. 5, Dist. 6.

#### Defeno. Joe Phelps

To the Editor:

Your editorial entitled "A Saskatchewan Luxury—the High Cost of Joe Phelps," in the March issue of "Farm and Ranch Review," clearly shows that you are trying to cause a split between farmers and labour, at a time when our Canadian economy faces every sign of a recession.

The press statement issued by the recently formed Farmer-Labour Economic Council to the effect that the two major groups in the Canadian economy should co-ordinate their efforts . . . to prevent this unsound economic position from spreading, is clear enough to most of us who have felt the results of the tightening up of credit. We know that there are still those who profit from the old system of "Divide and Rule" and who wish to maintain that position, but we are very disappointed that you, whose writings we have followed for some years, should join them and lay all the blame for the farmers' dilemma on increased wages of labour.

To begin with, labour wage-earners and their families make up a good percentage of Canada's population and are consumers of the farmers' produce, while we farmers, in turn, have to buy that which labour produces. It is obvious that each group should be interested in the purchasing power of the other.

Our president, Joe Phelps, is only carrying out farm union policy when he makes a "success of getting into bed with the unions." We farmers have at least realized that, in a society so highly organized such as ours, we ourselves must organize along similar lines as the labour unions, manufacturers associations, the legal and medical professions and the like—or perish.

We also realize that labour's share of the farmers' dollar is nothing like as large as the profits of the companies manufacturing the goods farmers must buy. In the farm implement industry, to take one important example, labour's share of the farmers' dollar was one-third less in 1952 than it was in 1945. (See the report of the Saskatchewan Royal Commission, 1952).

No, Mr. Editor, we farmers are not so uninformed as you think. Thanks to the leadership of George Bickerton and Frank Eliason, of the former farmers' organization, the United Farmers of Canada (Saskatchewan section), a close liaison with labour was established in 1946 when the Saskatchewan Occupational Group Council was formed, comprised of farmer, labour and teacher groups. Joe Phelps has taken us one step further into the national field. This is as it should be.

Yours truly,

Prince Albert. Jas. F. Gray.

Last year the cattle population of Australia reached a total of 10½ million head, an all-time record. Almost all of the beef surplus went to the United Kingdom.

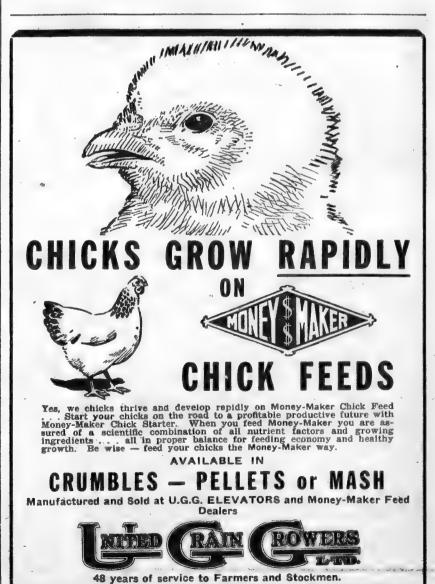


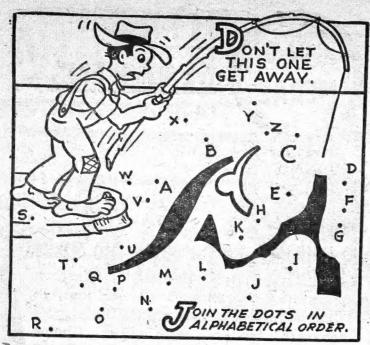
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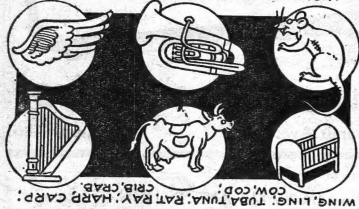
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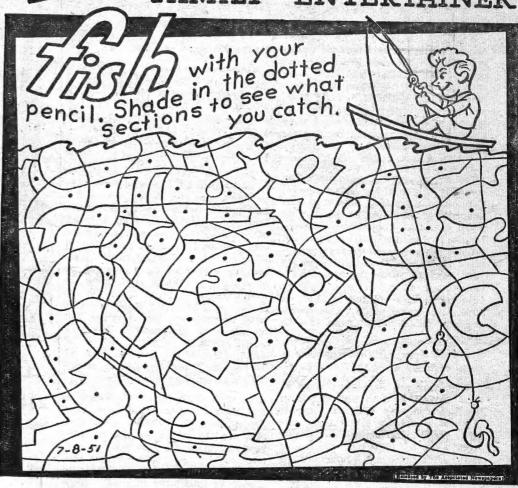


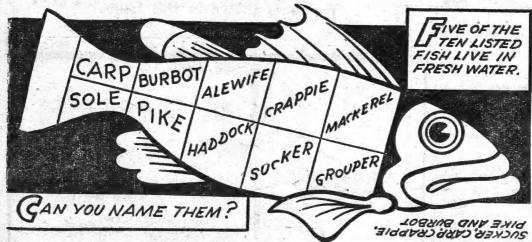


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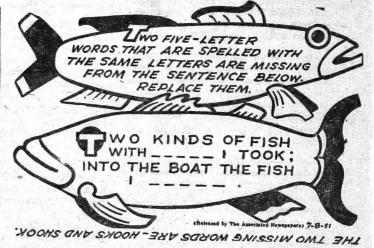


BASS, COD, EEL, HADDOCK, HALIBUT, PERCH, PIKE





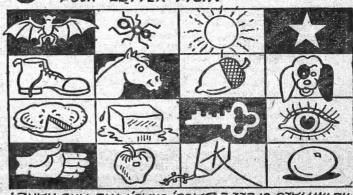
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THE INITIALS SPELL - BASS, SHAD, PIKE AND HAKE:

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23	Haphazard mixture
24	Wild ass of
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26	Symbol for sodium
28	City of Belglum
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(abbr.)	103	measure
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HORIZONTAL

63 Man's nickname

65 Revolving part of machine

66 Knocks 67 Kitchen

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	Indians
123	
	Coagulate
124	Part of
	poem (pl.)
125	Old-
120	fashioned
127	Hinders
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400	vexatiously
129	Group
-/	pulling
	together
	(pl:)
130	Form of
	Form of "to be"
132	Work of
	fiction (pl.)
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139	A duct
141	Baseball
	team
142	Good-bye
144	A girl
145	Norse
170	goddess of
440	healing
146	Hindu
	charitable
	gift
148	A direction
149	Lighter
	than air
	craft
151	French
	article
152	Wild buffalo
102	of India
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133	Make a new
4	version of
155	Polson
156	In addition
158	Assesses
160	Part of
	Part of ship (pl.)
161	Goddess of
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	opinions
2	Wireless
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6	Sinews
7	While
8	Meadow
9	Beard of
	grain (pl.)
10	Purpose (pl.)
11	A lattice
12	Ventilater
13	Cleaning implement
14	Ву
15	Medics
16	Printer's measure
17	Flying mammal
18	Culture
19	S. American rosy-brown wood
20	Grain fungus
27	Assists
29	A delay
30	Glove
32	Sign of the Zodiac
34	Symbol for tellurium
36	While
37	Medleval weapon
40	American

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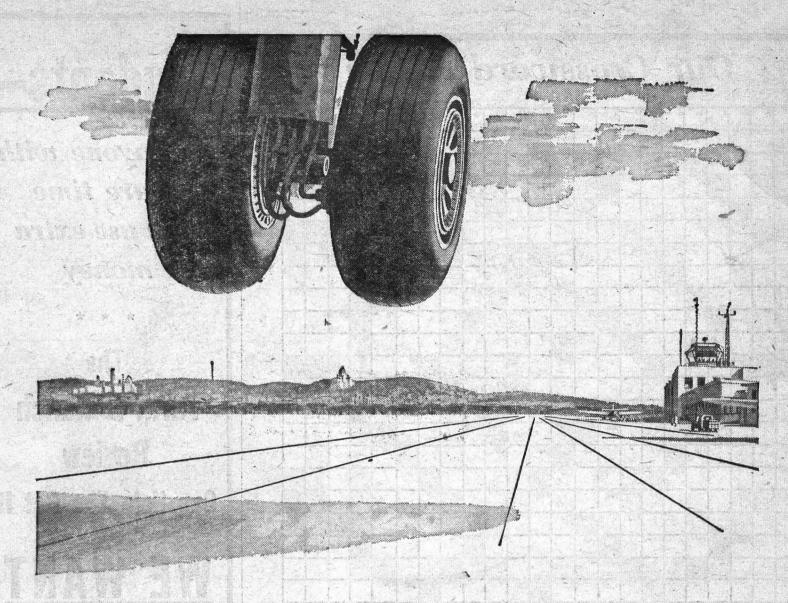
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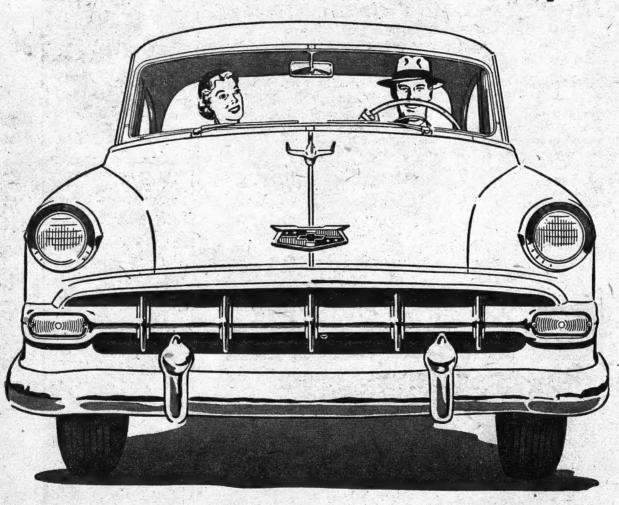
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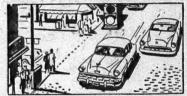
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